

MISSIONARIES OF AFRICA

SOUTH AFRICA

NEWSLETTER No. 25

21st February 2013

Dear Aspirants,

Greetings! This time of Lent is a "favourable time" (as we read in the liturgy of Lent from Isaiah 49:8). A time of favour for each one who loves the Lord. Look in your life for the favours He sends you!

At the end of this month, we shall start the **monthly Vocation Discernment meetings**; indeed, the last Sunday of every month, from February to August, we meet at the Cathedral from 10am to 3pm to reflect and pray about the call God has for each one of us in our life. These meetings are very fruitful. Many youth have already discovered their vocation (be it as priests, brothers, sisters, married life) through these monthly times of reflection together with friends and a few priests, brothers and sisters. Welcome with your friends!

On Saturday, 2nd February, around one hundred (100) youth gathered at the Cathedral for the World Day of Consecrated Life; there were also many Priests, Brothers and Sisters who were mingling and chatting with the youth. Archbishop Buti Tlhagale presided the Mass and preached; he challenged the youth to be ready to join a religious Vocation. In the hall, we were entertained by different groups who performed music and songs. One Sister and one Brother talked about their own Vocation and how happy they have been in pursuing the will of God in their lives.

No news, good news! As we say. Yes, I have no news from Patrick over there in Malawi; it is a sign that he must be happy in his studies of philosophy and with his life with the other students. Let us pray for him and wish him all God's blessings!

But I just received an email from Tafadzwa, who has been back in Zimbabwe for a year now. Here is what he writes: "Dear Fr Michel, I greet u in the name of Christ our Lord and happy to receive some news from that side, it shows God's hand is doing tremendous and marvellous works there. Back here I am now in my final upper sixth year of my advanced level and looking forward to write in October and I am trying my best to prepare well. In spirit we are one as I always pray 4 God's enlightenment in my discernment process, hopefully in November this year after writing my final exams I will be back that side, Greet all who know me, now I am in touch with Patrick. May God bless you in Christ's name. Receive the lenten blessing. Tafadzwa." This is good news! Thank you, Tafadzwa, and be sure we keep you in our prayers. Yes, discernment takes time and efforts!



Some of the students in Bapong

On Monday 4th February, I spent the day in Bapong's St. Teresa High School. I talked to all the students in two groups, more than seven hundred in all! I told them about their Vocation in life, which should be to serve God and others, whatever they choose to be. "There is more happiness in giving than in receiving" (Acts 20:35). They also performed dances and songs.

Well, as we journey toward Easter, I wish you a very good preparation, that is a very good Lenten Season of prayer, fasting and giving.

Vocation Day!
This coming Sunday, 24th February, let us meet at the Cathedral for the first monthly Vocation Reflection Day!
We start at 10 am and we end at 3 pm after Mass.
Bring your friends!

Hope to see you this Sunday, at least those who are near Johannesburg.

God bless you!

Fr. Michael, M.Afr.

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**Be apostles,
nothing but apostles!**

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