



PRESENT



A Newsletter for the Candidates and Students of the Missionaries of Africa

Missionaries of Africa ▲▼▲▼▲▼▲▼▲▼▲▼▲▼▲▼▲▼

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THE POPE TO THOSE DISCERNING THEIR VOCATIONS



“You are young people on a vocational journey. You represent the Church’s youth! If the Church is the Bride of Christ, you in a certain sense represent the moment of betrothal, the spring of vocation, the season of discovery ... in which foundations are laid for the future. ... Today the word of God speaks to us of mission. ... What are the reference points of

Christian mission? The readings we have heard suggest three: the joy of consolation, the Cross and prayer.

Every Christian, and especially you and I, is called to be a bearer of this message of hope that gives serenity and joy: God’s consolation, his tenderness towards all. But if we first experience the joy of being consoled by him, of being loved by him, then we can bring that joy to others. This is important if our mission is to be fruitful: to feel God’s consolation and to pass it on to others! I have occasionally met consecrated persons who are afraid of the consolations of God. We must find the Lord who consoles us and go to console the people of God. This is the mission. People today certainly need words, but most of all they need us to bear witness to the mercy and tenderness of the Lord, which warms the heart, rekindles hope, and attracts people towards the good. What a joy it is to bring God’s consolation to others!

“The second reference point of mission is the Cross of Christ. Saint Paul, writing to the Galatians, says: 'Far be it from me to glory except in the Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ'. ... In his ministry Paul experienced suffering, weakness and defeat, but also joy and consolation. The

Paschal mystery is the beating heart of the Church’s mission! Pastoral fruitfulness of the Gospel proclamation is measured by conforming to the logic of the Cross of Jesus, which is the logic of stepping outside oneself and offering oneself, the logic of love.

“Dear young people discerning your vocations. Listen well: 'evangelization is done on one’s knees'. Always be men and women of prayer! Without a constant relationship with God, the mission becomes a job. The risk of activism, of relying too much on structures, is an ever-present danger. If we look towards Jesus, we see that prior to any important decision or event he recollected himself in intense and prolonged prayer. Let us cultivate the contemplative dimension, even amid the whirlwind of more urgent and heavy duties. And the more the mission calls you to go out to the margins of existence, let your heart be the more closely united to Christ’s heart, full of mercy and love.

The spread of the Gospel is not guaranteed by the number of persons or by the prestige of the institution, nor by the quantity of available resources. What counts is being permeated by the love of Christ, allowing oneself be led by the Holy Spirit and to graft one’s own life onto the tree of life, which is the Lord’s Cross.

“Dear friends, with great confidence I entrust you to the intercession of Mary Most Holy. She is the Mother who helps us to take life decisions freely and without fear. May she help you to bear witness to the joy of God’s consolation, without being afraid of joy, she will help you to conform yourselves to the logic of love of the Cross, to grow in ever deeper union with the Lord in prayer. Then your lives will be rich and fruitful!”

DIACONATE ORDINATION

Hello!
I hope and trust that you are keeping well. I just want to inform you that I pronounced my Perpetual Missionary

Oath on the 30th of April and I will be ordained deacon on 8th June 2013 here in Jerusalem. Please find in attachment some photos of the event and an invitation Card to the diaconate. Thank you very much for your constant prayers.
Yours
Sincerely,
Emmanuel.



Emmanuel Mubanga signing the Oath before the Superior General, Fr. Richard Bawoobr

To Emmanuel, we say congratulations on the two important steps you have taken in your journey to becoming an Apostle of Christ. We wish you God's blessings and we cannot wait to see you back home next year for your Priestly ordination, Insha'Allah.

TOUR / ANIMATION

18-27 June, 2013: Lumezi, Lundazi, Chama, Lumimba.

I was recently in the East where I toured and also visited some families of our aspirants and students. The tour was not as successful as expected since we could not manage to access some schools and some students due to the fact that the program coincided with the Schools' annual sports events. All said and done we still thank God for all those we met and shared our message with.



Above; with the father and mother of our student Benjamin Honest Mkandawire, who are both Catechists in Chama.

BALAKA - HOLIDAYS!

Our Philosophers from Balaka are back for holidays. The first years went straight to their families, whereas our three second years, five Malawians and two Mozambicans were accompanied by Fr. Kangwa to the Congo border. They are presently in Lubumbashi for French Course. He will go back to fetch them from Kasumbalesa border by the beginning of August, after

which they shall join their respective families for holidays. We wish them Bonne Chance!



With ten Balaka students on the way to Congo Border

APPOINTMENTS TO THE SPIRITUAL YEAR

Three of our students just completed their three years of Philosophical and Religious at Balaka and have been appointed to the Novitiate. Below are their names and where they have been appointed to.

Lefterius Mwamba	Bobo, Burkina Faso
Cornelius Kalunga	Arusha, Tanzania
Humphrey Chishimba	Arusha, Tanzania

We wish them God's guidance and the best of the spiritual experience.

APOSTOLIC EXPERIENCE

It is time to move again for our five spiritual giants who are just winding up their spiritual experiences in Kasama, Arusha and Bobo respectively. They have already received their stage appointments. Below is the table showing their names, places of their Novitiate and countries of their new appointments. We continue to pray for them as they slowly draw closer to the final stage of their initial formation.

Brian Banda	Bobo - Brk	Congo
Hendricks Chisanga	Bobo - Brk	Algeria
Richard Mwenaya	Arusha- Tz	Burkina Faso
Christopher Nkandu	Kasama-Zm	Ghana
Sydney Sinda	Arusha -Tz	Burkina Faso

COME & SEE

We shall have "Come and See" in **Serenje** from **22-29th July 2013** and **Chipata 12-16th August**. The participants have already been invited. Please do confirm your participation with Fr. Mambwe once you receive the invitation letter. To all others, please do keep in touch as this is a way for us to know that you are interested and thus invite you for the "Come and See". Till then, it is good bye and God bless you All.