

# MISSIONARIES OF AFRICA

## SOUTH AFRICA

NEWSLETTER No. 39

26<sup>th</sup> May 2014

My dear Friends,

Greetings from Canada!

On Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> May until Sunday 4<sup>th</sup>, I was in Cape Town for a *Come & See* with three young men interested to join the Missionaries of Africa. It was a very good experience and the weekend was well filled with prayer, reflection, discussions, visioning of Christian films and... good food! The Holy Cross Sisters who received us were so kind and so well organised! On Friday evening we had the surprise of a phone call from Patrick who is studying in 2<sup>nd</sup> year of philosophy in Malawi! He just wanted to wish the participants a good and fruitful *Come & See* and assure them of his prayers and moral support! We really appreciated his thoughtfulness!

On Friday, 9<sup>th</sup>, I drove to Merrivale via Bethlehem where I met with Mpho who is still happily discerning his vocation. He is working in a Spur restaurant and is doing very well. It is interesting to know that two of the *Come & See* participants are also working in restaurants! It is surely a good training in human and social relationship, very important qualities for a future priest/missionary!



Carmel, Justen and Eustache at the *Come & See*

On Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> I was in Durban with one of our students of Merrivale seminary, Anthony Batioka from Ghana, for a Youth Fiesta in St. Anthony's Parish. Around one hundred youth came and many showed interest in our exhibition about the missionary vocation. Late afternoon, I went to Amanzimtoti Parish (25 km south of Durban) where I said Mass and preached about vocations on the occasion of Vocation Sunday, without, of course, forgetting the Mothers on this special Mothers' Day; yes, being a mother is also a real vocation and most priests and missionaries owe a lot to their dear mothers in the pursuing and living out their vocations. I stayed there until Monday morning because I also preached at the morning and evening Masses of Sunday.

At the same time, in Johannesburg, my confrere Fr. Didier Michon with some youth went to the cathedral on Sunday morning for the archdiocesan celebration of Vocation Sunday. He also put up an exhibition and, with the help of these youth, distributed a lot of our flyers on the Missionaries of Africa. Let us hope and pray that all these efforts will one day bear fruit in inspiring some to become priests, brothers and sisters who will really want to go out as missionaries.

From the 19<sup>th</sup> to the 22<sup>nd</sup> May we had our Sector Meeting for all the M.Afr. in Coolock House (100 km south of Durban). It was a very interesting session, but I was not able to attend the whole session, as I had to be back in Joburg to board my flight for Canada on Thursday at 3 pm. After 19 hours' flight and 9 hours' wait in Doha airport, I finally arrived in Montreal on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup>. As it was my 44<sup>th</sup> anniversary of priestly ordination, two of my confreres concelebrated Mass with me in the evening.

The following day, my family all came to the Provincial House for Mass and a braai to celebrate my 70<sup>th</sup> birthday (getting old!) and my 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Missionary Oath! Everybody was happy and wished me many more happy years in the missions!

On this, I leave you and wish you all God's very best as you are praying for a better understanding of God's call for each one of you! I also pray for you. God bless you.

Fr. Michel.

Michel Meunier, M.Afr.  
Vocation Director  
Cell: 072.987.2990  
Email: [mavocsa@gmail.com](mailto:mavocsa@gmail.com)

**Be apostles,  
nothing but apostles!**

P.O. Box 10057  
Edenglen 1613  
Tel: 011.452.5283  
Fax: 011.609.9335