

# MISSIONARIES OF AFRICA

SOUTH AFRICA

Be apostles,

*nothing but apostles!*

27<sup>th</sup> July 2014

NEWSLETTER No. 42

My dear Friends,

Greetings! I hope you are fine.

Young people still want to follow Jesus, yes they do! On 2<sup>nd</sup> August, Saturday evening, Fr. Didier Michon, M.Afr., Fr. Faustin Kerumbe, M.Afr. and myself went to hear confessions with eight other priests for a group of over one hundred High School students and young adults. They were having an intense *Life in the Spirit* weekend and were really filled with the love of the Lord! For almost two hours, we received them individually and heard their confessions expressing their desire to live a better life for the Lord and for their fellow men and women. It was very refreshing!

Dear Brothers,

Greeting from Maseru; I am healthy and doing well by God's grace. I am on holidays, but remaining with about two weeks before going back to Malawi for my 3<sup>rd</sup> and last year in philosophy. This academic year will mark the end of my first phase before going to the novitiate (Zambia, Tanzania or Burkina Faso), if all goes well, and if I am recommended. For this, I need more of your prayers and support.

My holidays started on the 28<sup>th</sup> June and I arrived in Johannesburg on 29<sup>th</sup> evening; the next day, 30<sup>th</sup> June, I quickly went to visit my Father, my sister Gisele, and my nephew Bright in Lesotho where I spent my first three weeks of holidays. While having a good time with my family, I was pleased to receive an e-mail of Fr. Michel from Canada; he gave a fantastic idea suggesting that I may go to keep company to Fr. Didier in Endenglen. Fr. Didier was the only confrere in the house while the others were on leave. I had a good experience in Endenglen, though I never thought of it to be such a busy place (picking up people at the airport, saying Mass at the radio and at the Sisters' and in parishes on Sundays, visiting the sick and so forth). During my last week there, we had the chance to celebrate Fr. Didier's birthday and mine. These two events were moments of joy; I thank God for such an opportunity.

So far, I am having great moments of holidays, but I am also preparing to go back to Malawi on 8<sup>th</sup> September for my last year of intellectual gymnastics in Balaka! I have a great feeling that I will miss Balaka, a place where I have already considered as a home, and leaving it will be painful; however, we are called to be missionaries.

I am willing to meet you, my brothers, probably in December as I will be coming for Christmas holidays. From experience, I know that as an aspirant one has always many questions to ask; hence it would be good to have a weekend together as a *Come & See*, if possible, then we would have much to share. In unity and prayer, I wish you all a lovely month-end of August and a fruitful month of September.

United in Christ.

Patrick Kalonji Kadima

On 7<sup>th</sup> until 9<sup>th</sup> August, Fr. Faustin and I were in Lebombo visiting our confreres and our student doing his pastoral experience there. We also took along Fr. Faustin's luggage who will be stationed there after his Zulu course. He was ordained at the same time as late Fr. Sebastien – who died in a car accident in January this year (*Newsletter* No. 35). He knew him very well from the seminary. He has volunteered to replace him, after working four years as a missionary in Zambia.

On Sunday 10<sup>th</sup>, after a lively Mass in City Deep with the francophone community, Fr. Faustin, seminarian Erico and I drove to Merrivale, our House of Formation near the Cedara. Erico had just come back from Mexico to bury his dear mother who died a few weeks before. We pray for you, Erico and your family; good luck as you end your first year of theology!

On Monday morning, Fr. Faustin and I made a detour via Henley Parish to visit our confreres and our other stagiaire in this new parish in the KZN mountains. They all look very happy to be in their refurbished house, and their pastoral work is going on very well.

At 1:30 pm, we stop in Mariannhill to meet some of the bishops who are having their assembly, especially bishop Sandri of Witbank diocese, where Fr. Faustin will work, and Bishop Jan DeGroef, M.Afr., of Bethlehem diocese. In the afternoon, we drive to Assisi, north of Port Shepstone, where I leave Fr. Faustin in the good hands of the Daughters of St. Francis of Assisi; he will be there 4 to 5 months to learn Zulu. Fr. Faustin, we wish you a very good language course and much perseverance in learning to *ukukhuluma isiZulu!*



The 2 Birthday Boys with Fr. Mathieu

On this, I leave you, asking you to pray, this coming month, in a special way for the **Mission Month**, coming up in October, so that the South African Church may become more missionary-minded! God bless you!

Fr. Michael

Before deciding on a *Come & See* for the Cape Town aspirants, I am waiting for the response of the three who were at the May weekend (see *Newsletter* No. 39). By the 1<sup>st</sup> September, we shall know for sure. Thanks, guys!

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**Be Apostles**  
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