

MISSIONARIES OF AFRICA

SOUTH AFRICA

NEWSLETTER No. 43

25th September 2014

*Be apostles,
nothing but apostles!*

My dear Friends,

Greetings! How are you?

Since the last *Newsletter*, life goes on and the activities are always plenty! I guess a missionary is always busy, as well as you also who are students and who are working; some of you do both!

Patrick is still here on 31st August and he takes part in the Vocation Discernment meeting held every month at the Cathedral. There are about 25 youth and ten religious Sisters. A few groups introduce their religious congregations. Patrick talks mostly about how he found his vocation and how he feels happy as a student with our Society of the M.Afr. With a PowerPoint presentation, I introduce the Missionaries of Africa and I also tell them about my own journey in discovering my vocation when I was young. At 2pm we end with the celebration of the Holy Mass.



Some of the youth at the vocation discernment meeting

On Monday and Tuesday 1st and 2nd September, I take some time for manual work: I paint the ceilings of the bedroom of Fr. Christophe Boyer who is coming next week to be our new Sector Treasurer. I also paint the chapel ceiling and walls; there was a real need for it! On Friday morning the 5th, I find some time to paint my bedroom ceiling. I like to work with my hands when I have time! This is also a task of missionaries! One has to learn to do a variety of house repairs and even some mechanics; in the past I have done a lot of electrical fixing and repairs, plumbing, carpentry, etc. Many of our priests and especially our brothers are very good in these. Jesus was a carpenter, wasn't he? One day, in Toronto, as I was repairing a bench outside the church, a Jewish neighbour was passing and looked astonished; I then told him: "*My Master was a Jewish Carpenter*". He smiled and wished me a good day!

On Sunday, 7th, Fr. Didier Michon and I go to celebrate the Sunday liturgy; he takes Mass in Vlakfontein Township and I take the one in St. Thomas, Lenesia. In the afternoon, on our way back, we stop to pick up Patrick who is ready to travel the next day. After a night at our house, on Monday morning I drive him to Park City station where he boards his bus for Malawi at 8 am. The following day around 10 pm, he has reached Balaka where he rejoins his community of students and formators. In an email, he tells us he has travelled very well.

On Wednesday 24th (Heritage Day), as a community, we take the morning off to pray in a quiet place (at the Missionary Sisters of the Holy Rosary). It is a good time of resourcing in the Lord. We have with us Fr. Albert Chilufya, a young Zambian confrere who just came for medical treatment. Ordained in 2011, he has worked 3 years in Mali.

This month, I have met three classes of grades 8 and 10 in Maryvale High School: we talk about vocation. I see in them a lot of interest, yet some fear in embracing such a demanding call from God. But I explain that all vocations are beautiful, as long as you are fulfilling God's will. Here is a Vocation Prayer written for them. Please, pray it every day.

VOCATION PRAYER

Lord, you know that I am still young and unsettled. I have great ideals of a better world where everyone could live in peace. Help me to understand your will on me; I pray that I may discern my vocation, the one you want me to follow, so that I may live happily and help others to be happy as well.

If you want me to become a Priest or a religious Brother or Sister, help me to become a good Priest or a good Brother or Sister.

If you want me to become a Husband or a Wife and a Parent, help me to become a good Husband or a good Wife and a good Parent.

If you want me to remain single, teach me to be generous and to work for you and your Kingdom. Whatever you want me to be, teach me to understand that the best Vocation is the one where I will love you and love others the best I can. Amen!

Tomorrow evening (26th) until Sunday afternoon (27th), we will hold a **Come & See** in Cape Town. Four young men have confirmed their participation. Please, pray for them and for me! Thanks!

God bless you all!

Fr. Michael

Michel Meunier, M.Afr.
Vocation Director
Cell: 072.987.2990
Email: mavocsa@gmail.com

**Be Apostles
Nothing but Apostles!**

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