



MISSIONARIES OF MARIANHILL

OFFICE OF REGIONAL SUPERIOR

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EAST AFRICA REGIONAL CIRCULAR LETTER - 02/2024

Dear Confreres,

Greetings of the new year 2024.

Thanksgiving and Prayer

“³I thank my God every time I remember you. ⁴In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy ⁵because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, ⁶being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus. ⁷It is right for me to feel this way about all of you, since I have you in my heart and, whether I am in chains or defending and confirming the gospel, all of you share in God’s grace with me. ⁸God can testify how I long for all of you with the affection of Christ Jesus. ⁹And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, ¹⁰so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, ¹¹filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ—to the glory and praise of God. “(Phil. 1:3-11).

With this beautiful Bible text, I would like to start this circular letter by saying a big thank you to all of you dear Confreres who have been with us, continue being with us as individuals, as Units, as Provinces and as the entire leadership of CMM Congregation in supporting us through your payers and encouragement, your advice and guidance, your moral and financial support in any way possible. And I would like also to ask you to continue with the same spirit so that what we have done together continue going ahead and what we have not yet achieved as a Region we can also achieve it. We remain grateful to you all.

1. GRATITUDE

We are grateful to Fr Kevin Mapfumo, CMM, General Council and who is in charge of Formation Portfolio for his presence in our Unit starting from June 2023 and who has just returned back to

the Generalate. We thank him and the General Government for his inputs, advice and guidance which he provided while he was with us. Asante sana Baba Kevin, apa epa shili pa kuleka mukwai.

2. ORDINATIONS

a. Fr Tatenda Kakwedza CMM

We continue thanking the Lord for the gift of ordination of Fr Tatenda Kakwedza CMM who was ordained as a priest in Bulawayo in Zimbabwe his home on the 25.11. 2023 and now he is serving as assistant parish priest in St Magdalene Kimara Mtoni Parish in Dar Es Salaam in Archdiocese in Tanzania. We wish him a happy and successful pastoral ministry.

b. Deacon Mzokhona Gumede CMM and Deacon Agblekpe Koudzo Sedem Ildephonse Benito CMM

We have two deacons named above who have been ordained on 03.11. 2023 here in Nairobi, Kenya. We congratulate them and wish them well in their service as deacons.

3. ADMISSIONS

We thank the CMM General Government in Rome to have admitted **Fr. Leandro Jose Langa CMM to diaconate.**

He will join the Salesians of Don Bosco in May 2024 for his diaconate ordination. We continue to pray for him for more God's blessings upon him.

4. PERPETUAL PROFESSION

The following have made their Perpetual Profession on 02.02.2024 at Christ the Prophet Community (CPC) in Karen, Nairobi, Kenya:

1. Frt. Mzizi Thembelani, CMM

2. Frt. Steven Banda, CMM
3. Frt. Gabriel Chirawu, CMM
4. Frt. Patrick Mangoma, CMM
5. Frt. Ntokozo Sbonelo Ndhlovu, CMM
6. Frt. Joseph Mothetho Lebohang, CMM

We congratulate them and we wish them well in their vocational journey of religious life as CMM members.

5. RENEWAL OF TEMPORARY VOWS

The following Confreres have renewed their temporary vows:

1. Frt. Mbongeni James Nene, CMM
2. Frt. Cephas Wamalabe, CMM
3. Frt. Perfect Definate Sidinga, CMM
4. Frt. Sithembiso Promise Sithole, CMM
5. Frt. Lusanda Mthuli, CMM
6. Frt. Cletus Mwela, CMM
7. Frt. Thomas Masereka, CMM
8. Frt. Jonathan Iyonda Kusuinga, CMM
9. Frt. Pascoal Joachim Wavila, CMM

We also congratulate them and we wish them well in their vocational discernment as CMM confreres.

6. FIRST PROFESSIONS

We Congratulate our novices who have made their First Profession on 02.02.2024 in Mariannahill in South Africa:

- a. Barasa Joseph Wekesa, transferred to German Province by the GG
- b. Erneste Uwizeyimana, transferred to East Africa his original Unit by the GG
- c. Francis Njoki Mwangi, transferred to Mariannahill by the GG
- d. Dukuzeyezu Emmanuel, transferred to the Province of Mariannahill by the GG

Similarly, we welcome the following who have been transferred to East Africa Unit:

- a. Ayanda Mtolo, from Mariannhill Province
- b. Francis Farai Musanembwa, from the Region of Zimbabwe

We wish all of them a successful mission in their new places of formation, **and to our newly transferred to East Africa we say you are most welcome.**

7. APIRANCY:

We have 10 Aspirants. 2 of them are following various “come and see “programs at CPC Formation House in order to know more about the Congregation, and 8 others have now started their program under the new postulant Director, Fr. Paul Omari Omweri, CMM, in Old Church Juja Farm.

8. APPOINTMENTS AND TRANSFERS

- a. Fr. Felix Nsama Kabwe CMM, has been appointed as Ad Interim Rector; Bro. Thomas Eduard Fischer CMM, has been appointed as Ad Interim Vice-Rector; and Fr. Jackstone Kupalo Angamia CMM, has been appointed as Ad Interim Formator. We wish them a successful ministry.
- b. Fr. Cosmas Omare Momanyi, CMM has been transferred to Juja Farm, his new residence, and hence he was moved from CPC where he was staying and serving as a Community Superior, to be Assistant Parish Priest of Presentation of the Lord Parish in Nairobi Archdiocese in Kenya. During some few specific days in a week only, Fr Cosmas will be attending classes in Psychology at CUEA in Karen.
- c. Fr. Paul Omari Omweri CMM has been appointed as Postulant Director. He will be residing at Old Church Community, Postulancy House, in Juja Farm within the Archdiocese of Nairobi in Kenya. Fr. Paul Omari Omweri still remains the Regional Treasurer and the Vocation’s Promotor of the Unit. Fr Omari is also attending classes in Accounting during some days in a week.

- d. Fr. Tatenda Kakwedza, CMM has been appointed as assistant parish priest at St. Mary Magdalene Kimara Mtoni Parish in Dar Es Salaam Archdiocese in Tanzania
- e. Fr. Roy Chimbindi Takawira CMM has been transferred from Christ the Prophet Community (CPC) where he has been staying to Longido where he will be residing and assisting in pastoral work at St. Lawrence Parish in Arusha Archdiocese in Tanzania, while carrying out the project of Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) as its Director.
- f. Fr. Michael Njenga Kimani CMM has been transferred to German Province.
- g. Fr. Jacktone Kupalo Angamia CMM has been transferred back to East Africa Region from Switzerland Community.
- h. Fr. Francis Ngadi Ochieng CMM has been transferred from East Africa Region back to the Region of Mthatha in South Africa.

9. VISITS

In the Middle of Last year 2023 we hosted Fr. Wenceslaus Kwindingwi CMM, Director of Solidarity Office. This was in line with following up on some projects in the Unit and we remain grateful for his visit. We were also glad to host Right Reverend Bishop Thulani Victor Mbuyisa, CMM, Bishop of Kokstad Diocese and other two Bishops from South Africa who had come for the workshop in Nairobi.

10. PROJECTS AND PLANS

a. NIVARD HOUSE

- b. Nivard House has been rented out since last year 2023 and it is now being used as Rehabilitation and Mental Health Care Centre.

c. FGM LONGIDO PROJECT

CMM East Africa Region has now initiated in Masai Community in Longido in Arusha Archdiocese in Tanzania the project whose aim is to deal with the issues of Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) in the area.

There is a team running it and Fr Roy Chimbindi Takawira CMM is the Director. We thank the Switzerland Community for the funds and the GG for the facilitation over this project. We continue to pray for the success of the same project.

d. REGIONAL FARM AT ATHI OF JUJA FARM

We are glad that our Regional Farm in Athi of Juja Farm has started well by clearing the land first of all and now the work of fencing is going on and the rest will follow suit and we hope that it will continue to progress as we want it to be for the betterment of the Region.

e. THE SEAMEN OR SEAFARERS PROJECT

We are nurturing a new apostolate. In June 2024 we will be inaugurating a project called **Seamen or Seafarers** in Dar Es Salaam Archdiocese. This new apostolate is under the initiative of Fr. Patrick Musumba Oduor, CMM and the Archdiocese of Dar Es Salaam in Tanzania. After its inauguration Fr. Patrick Musumba will be appointed officially to run it.

Any CMM Member who is interested to join Fr. Musumba in union, communion and collaboration with East Africa Unit for this mission project is most welcome. This is a mission project which has attracted the interest of both us as CMM East Africa Region and the Archdiocese of Dar Es Salaam and if all goes well, it could even be expanded later on to Zanzibar and elsewhere like in Mombasa in Kenya.

f. CMM EAST AFRICA REGIONAL SCHOOL

It is in our plan as East Africa Unit to start a CMM School on one of our pieces of land. We pray for the same project as well.

g. CPC HOUSE OF FORMATION PAVEMENT PROJECT

Christ the Prophet Community (CPC) House of Formation has been paved and it has a new look now. Those who intend to visit CPC at the moment be informed that you will need to use the gate at the **initial entrance** of CPC.

The old entrance has now been closed. When you reach the old entrance you will need to proceed a little bit further ahead and you will make a slight corner as to your right side and after few meters you will see a new gate on which it is written **Congregation of Missionaries of Mariannahill. That is where you will enter CPC from, using either the big gate or the small gate.**





h. CPC FORMATION HOUSE SMALL PROJECTS

All the small projects which contribute to the welfare of Students and which had collapsed have now been revamped and so now we have chickens both broilers and layers; cows which are now milking; piggery and the garden as well have been resuscitated. We are now able to sell but also feed ourselves from the products of these small projects and students and Formators are fully actively involved in the running of these projects .

i. CPC FORMATION HOUSE

Our chapel at CPC is still too small and we still need to put up a bigger and spacious chapel once funds are available.





At CPC we have 19 students who are doing theological studies; 15 candidates in Philosophy and 2 Aspirants. The total number of students at CPC House of Formation is 36 and all our students are from 13 different Nationalities.

j. JUJA FARM COMMUNITY HOUSE IN ATHI

The Construction of the CMM East Africa Community House in Athi of Juja Farm is still on. The roofing work done is at almost 60% percent, but a lot is still to be done for its completion.

We thank the German Province and other communities for the donation of funds for this Community House and for their desire to see this house roofed and also completed in the long run so that it can start serving its purpose.



k. JUBILARIANS

We congratulate Fr. Robert Kiiza Kaiza CMM and Fr. Roy Chimbindi Takawira CMM for their Silver Jubilee Anniversary of their religious profession. Heartfelt Congratulations dear confreres and we thank God for all what you have achieved as Confreres in CMM Congregation and in your lives as well. May God continue to bless you abundantly.

I. WORKSHOP AND RETREAT

We thank those Confreres who have attended our workshop on Leadership, Social Innovation and Safeguarding of Children and Vulnerable Adults Protection. We also thank the facilitators for their dedication and helpful inputs during our workshop and our Retreat respectively.





m. CELEBRATION OF THE PRINCIPAL FEAST OF THE CONGREGATION: 02.02.2024

We thank everyone who has been involved in preparation for our celebration of the Feast of the Congregation, 02.02.2024 during which our six young Confreres made their perpetual profession.

It was indeed a community day celebration. It was also joyfull celebration for all the invited, relatives, friends, neighbours, religious men and women and local autoriteis, who joined us to celebrate this day as one family of God. We are grateful to them for their presence on that day.



And our 2 senior Confreres celebrated their Silver Jubilee (25TH Anniversary) of their Religious Profession: Fr. Robert Kiiza Kaiza, CMM and Fr. Roy Chimbindi Takawira, CMM.

We thank God for their gift of their religious vocation and for all what they have achieved in the Congregation and in their personal life as well.

We continue to pray for them so that the Good Lord continue to give them a long life as they continue being a source of inspiration to all the Confreres in our Region.









We thank God for the blessings from the celebration of this day:



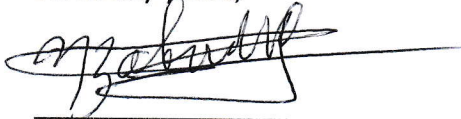
n. CONDOLENCES

We also continue to extend and express our sincere condolences to our confreres who have lost their beloved ones. May the Good Lord continue to be their comfort and the source of

consolation to their families. And may the souls of the faithful departed brothers and sisters continue resting in God's Eternal Peace.

Thank you and I wish you well in Christ service.

Faithfully yours,



Fr. Vincent Nwabandora CMM
East Africa Regional Superior

