

CONGREGATION OF THE MISSIONARIES OF MARIANHILL



OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL SUPERIOR
P.O BOX 50161, LUSAKA – ZAMBIA
Plot F687 A/1/A Pelican Road - Makeni



Email: admin.cmmzambia@mariannahill.org | Website: www.cmmmariannahill.org

14/04/2023

Greetings Dear Confreres,

Associates

Benefactors.

After some time, I am informing you of the events that have taken place in our unit. This is the Easter period, the time when we celebrate the great love of our Lord Jesus for humanity that He displayed in the passion, death and resurrection. All what He went through was out of the love He has for us. We too, therefore, have no option but to love one another as we love ourselves. We will not be known by anything else that we are His disciples except by LOVE. Ref. John 13:34-35

1. Arrivals

Fr. Peter Phiri and Fr. Victor Mpundu finished their Novitiate in Mariannahill on February 02, 2023. Our two Confreres have since remained in South Africa to learn German since they are transferred to the Unit of Germany. Fr. Fewdays Bwalya and Fr. Adam Mbwana of the Unit of Mariannahill and studying Theology at Cedara were in Zambia for a one-month holiday and have since returned to their Unit. Fr. Ernest Kabungo is in the country on home leave. Welcome father and rest well

Fr. Felix Nsama, who was in Rome for studies in Formation at the Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas = Angelicum, has finished his studies and is now back in Zambia and currently at Blessed Engelmar House of Formation as the Formator.

2. New Appointments

The Unit Superior with his Council made some new appointments:

- Fr. Felix Nsama has been assigned back to Blessed Engelmar House of Formation as the Formator.
- Fr. Derek Mwansa has been appointed Formator at Kasembo in charge of Aspirants and Postulants.
- Fr. Abraham Mwango, who was the assistant priest at St. Francis of Assisi Parish, Nseluka, has been transferred to St. Margaret Parish in Mungwi as an assistant priest.
- After a short break from pastoral work, Fr. Isaac Mwansa has been assigned as an assistant priest of Nseluka Parish.
- Fr. Crispin Mukupa Musonda finished his studies in Accounts at the University of Lusaka and has gone back to teaching at Mungwi Technical High School. He has since joined the community in Mungwi.
- We congratulate our two confreres who have been appointed into the Commissions by the General Government. Fr. Stephen Mubanga Chikwanda Post Chapter Commission and Fr. Felix Nsama Formation Commission. We congratulate Fr. Patrick Chongo for his appointment as the congregation delegate for Safe-guarding. Confreres count on our support as the Unit.

3. Blessed Engelmar House of Formation

Currently, Blessed Engelmar House of Formation has a total number of 19 students in formation doing the Aspirancy and Candidacy program.

a. Aspirancy Program

The 2023 Aspirancy program commenced at the beginning of February. This year the program is held at Blessed Engelmar House of Formation because the House of formation at Kasembo needs some touch here and there. The following are the candidates:

- Alex Nambazo (Malawi, Blantyre);
- Howard Hola (Malawi, Lilongwe);
- Peter Chomba (Kasama, Mungwi Parish);
- Frank Banda (Luapula),
- Derrick Mabulosi (Lusaka, St. Monica Parish),
- Chrispin Chama (Lusaka, Kamanga Parish),
- Emmanuel Mwakalinga (Mufulira, St. Peter's Parish).

b. Candidacy Program

The Candidacy Programme has 13 students: The first years are: John Katongo (St. Margaret Parish, Mungwi); Bupe Mukuka (St. Nicholas Parish, Chambishi); William Lukwesa (St. Kizito Parish, Kapata); Charles Besa (St. John The Apostle, Kabanana); Chilufya Mukuka (St. John's Cathedral, Kasama), Meford Lesa (Nseluka Parish) and Abibu Jean (Lubumbashi, Congo). In the second year is Lazarus Phiri (Lusaka, St. Francis De Sales). We have 4 students in the third Year: Nelson Chanda, Malindi Malindi, Bonaventure Katoto and Isaac Nsampa. They will be finishing their philosophical studies in May 2023.

4. The Novitiate

Upon the recommendations made by Fr. Gift Luke Mulenga, the director of the Postulancy program at that time, the Regional Council admitted Geoffrey Sikwesa to the Novitiate. This year, we have only one Novice in Mariannahill.

5. Silver Jubilee Celebrations

On February 5, 2023, Fr. Ignatius Bwalya and Fr. Lewis Watuka, celebrated their First profession Silver Jubilee at St. Stephen Chunga Parish with a Holy Mass of Thanksgiving at 09:30. We would like to offer our sincere gratitude to Confreres who participated and/or contributed towards the event in several ways. We wish our Confreres God's continued presence and protection in their vocation. May the Lord bless and reward them for their dedication to their calling as Missionaries of Mariannahill! Congratulations.

6. Canonical Visitation

In accordance with the Constitutions and regulations # 461, R464, §1, 483 - 484, and pursuant to the Code of Canon Law 628, §1, a canonical visitation was conducted through a delegation granted to me by the Superior Moderator, the Very Reverend Fr. Michael Maß, to the CMM local communities in Ukwimi, Chambishi, Kasembo Farm, Mungwi, Kapata, Nseluka, Chunga and Makeni. The Visitation was done in December 2022.

7. Financial Reports

It is part of transparency and accountability that we give financial reports about monies given to us for upkeep, pastoral work and evangelization. We therefore urge Confreres in charge of writing these reports to comply with the requests of the Regional Bursar.

8. Condolences

We express our heartfelt condolences to all Confreres who recently lost some loved ones. In a special way to Frt. Victor Mpundu who lost his elder sister Mary Kapenda Mpundu; Bro. Horace Kawimbe who lost his uncle Mr. Anthony Kawimbe; Fr. Daniel Phiri who lost his uncle Cosmas Tembo; and the uncle of Fr. Watuka. We also mourn with the other Units which have lost members in the previous months. May the Almighty God console all and may he grant eternal rest to all our deceased Confreres, Brothers, Sisters, Friends and Relatives.

9. Prayer Requests

Kindly remember in your prayers the mother of our Confrere Fr. Patrick Chongo, Euphrasia Kabwe Chongo, who is diabetic and recovering from a leg amputation. Remember also to pray for Alubina Lupiya, the grandmother of Fr. Simfukwe Timothy, who is admitted at UTH suffering from Asthma.

10. Mariannahill Mission School

With gratitude to the benefactors (Bad Abbach), we have managed to build another block of 3 classrooms, a store room and a computer room at Mariannahill Mission School. The total number of students is currently at 325. I would also like to mention that we have now 2 Precious Blood Sisters (CPS) as part of the school staff. Sr. Pauline Bopota, a Zimbabwean national employed as a primary school teacher, and Sr. Christine Ogochukwu Uche, Nigerian, as the bookkeeper of the school. We are grateful to the CPS for availing the two sisters.

11. Retreat

There will be a retreat for all the Confreres in Lusaka starting from 18th May to 22nd May 2023. In the Spirit of collaboration and amalgamation, Fr. Stuart Vukayi has accepted to come and lead us into this retreat. He might be joined by some Confreres from Zimbabwe. You are all urged to make plans for this retreat, especially about who will stand in for you in your absence from your stations.

12. A Word of Gratitude

I would like to thank all Confreres for the spirit of collaboration, especially Confreres working in different apostolates, for your selfless commitment towards your responsibilities. Thank you for your continued hard work in the midst of all the challenges. Finally, I would like to thank all the Formators in the Unit who journey with our young people in the houses of formation. Confreres, I thank you for your continued hard work in the midst of all the challenges. Surely you are witnesses to our call of being Religious and Missionaries. Let us reflect deeply on our call, our way of life, and on our mission mandate.

Yours sincerely,



Fr. Ivor Chaebwa CMM
Regional Superior

