

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

Dear Confreres and friends

Greetings to you all in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. It's my prayer that you are all fine wherever you are. We thank the almighty God for the protection and guidance He has rendered to us since the previous circular. Let me communicate some important developments that have taken place in the Zambian Unit meanwhile.

1. BISHOP THULANI MBUYISA CMM

As the Unit of Zambia we join the rest of the Congregation and the Church in thanking God for the gift of Bishop Thulani Mbuyisa CMM, the new Bishop of the Diocese of Kokstad in South Africa. We pray for you Bishop and be assured of our prayers and support.

2. FIRST PROFESSION

Our Confreres Frt. Cletus Mwela, Frt. Adam Mbwana and Frt. Moses Moyo made their first profession on 2nd February 2022. Congratulations dear Confreres for this important step in your Religious Missionary vocation. They have been transferred to other Units as follows:

Frt. Adam Mbwana to Mariannahill Unit where he began his philosophical studies at Cedara.

Frt. Cletus to East Africa. After his holidays at home, he left for his new Unit to commence his studies in Theology.

Frt. Moses Moyo to the German province. He arrived back in Zambia after having remained in South Africa, learning the German language. He is at the moment on holiday at home. Once paper work is done, he will proceed to Germany.

3. APPOINTMENTS

The Unit Superior in consultation with his Council made the following appointments:

Fr. Gift Luke Mulenga, who was the assistant priest at St. Margaret Parish in Mungwi, has been transferred to Blessed Engelmar House of Formation as the New Superior and Rector.

Fr. John Chishimba who was the formator for the Aspirancy and Postulancy program has been transferred from the House of Formation at Kasembo Farm to St. Kizito Parish (Kapata) as the Pastor in Charge. He was received by the parishioners on the 29th of May. His predecessor Fr. Isaac Mwansa will be going for a sabbatical yet to be organised.

4. DEPARTURES

Fr. Felix Nsama left for Rome to do studies in Formation at the Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas – Angelicum. Fr. Nsama resides in the Generalate during his studies.

Fr. Steven Chikwanda was transferred to the Region of Mthatha by the General Government. He has since moved to his new Unit.

Fr. Sylvester Mwatibu has been moved to the Unit of Spain to learn the Spanish language before he goes to Colombia, his next destination.

Fr. Alois Gende CMM from Papua New Guinea working in St. Kizito parish as an Assistant will in July go for home leave for three months. While there he has the chance to renew his passport and apply for a work permit for Zambia, his mission territory.

May God bless you in your new assignments.

5. HOLIDAYS

Fr. Raphael Mubukwanu of the Unit of Mthata, studying Theology at Cedara, is on a one-month home leave here in Zambia.

Fr. Brian Nonde from the Papua New Guinea is in the country on home leave. He goes back to Papua New Guinea sometime in August.

Fr. Louis Mwangi was for some weeks here in Zambia for home holiday from the Unit of Bulawayo. He has since gone back to Bulawayo.

Enjoy your stay dear confreres.

6. FORMATORS MEETING

This year 2022, our Unit hosted the Formation Meeting which took place at Blessed Engelmar House of Formation from April 18 to April 25. Our formation team and formators from several Units participated in the meeting. It was nice having the Confreres here in Zambia.

7. COME AND SEE WORKSHOP

In July this year the Vocations Director, Fr. Timothy Simfukwe and members of the Vocation team will conduct a three-day vocation workshop. This is a screening workshop for possible Aspirants for January 2023. For more details, you can get in touch with our Vocations Director.

8. CMM ASSOCIATES

Fr. Willard Chishimba has been assigned to assist Fr. Lewis Watuka with the Chaplaincy of our Associates.

9. ASPIRANCY PROGRAM

The Aspirancy programme for 2022 ended with the following Aspirants who have since gone for a one-month holiday and will come to Makeni for philosophical studies;

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)

Abibu Jean (Lubumbashi, Congo).

10. PASTORAL EXPERIENCE

The Candidate students at Blessed Engelmar House of Formation are on holiday for one month after which they will go for some apostolate in our CMM parishes. They have been assigned as follows;

- St. Margaret Parish, Mungwi – Nelson Chanda and Bonaventure Katoto Mukenerwa

- St. Francis of Assisi, Nseluka – Alphonse Kasanji
- St. Stephen the Martyr, Chunga – Edward Mukosha and Isaac Sampa
- St. Charles Lwanga Parish, Ukwimi – Malindi Malindi
- St. Kizito Parish, Kapata – Lazarous Banda

11. GRADUATION ST. BONAVENTURE

After completing Philosophical studies at St. Bonaventure University, our Candidate Geoffrey Sikwesa graduated on the 27th of May 2022. Congratulations to our Candidate for his achievement. Wishing him well in his next step of religious formation.

12. NOVICIATE

Upon the recommendations made by Fr. John Chishimba, the director of the Postulancy program at that time, The Regional Council admitted the following to the noviciate:

Peter Phiri from St. Francis De Sales, Thorn Park Lusaka.

Victor Mpundu from Good Shepherd Parish, Kabwata Lusaka.

We wish them well and pray that God will guide them in their vocation as Novices. We are grateful to Fr. John Chishimba who accompanied them in the pre-noviciate program.

13. POSTULANCY

This year 2022 we have only one Candidate who completed philosophy and therefore is ready for Postulancy. Geoffrey Sikweza will be in the Postulancy which has been transferred from Kasembo to Blessed Engelmar House of Formation. **Fr. Gift Mulenga** has been appointed as the Postulant Director.

14. FINANCIAL REPORTS

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

15. KASEMBO FARMS

The swimming pool at Kasembo Guest House is undergoing a complete facelift after some problems like leakage due to long life span. Five cows were purchased to add to the existing herd and a new incubator was acquired.

16. MARIANHILL MISSION SCHOOL (MMS)

Officially opened on the 23rd January 2021, the facility is envisioned to become a long term investment project for the Missionaries of Mariannahill in Zambia, with minimal risks, as the project will always run at critical levels under the strict supervision of a team of Confreres. This investment itself becomes a fixed asset that is ring fenced and self-sustaining. Being a big investment, it indeed required a substantial start-up capital. Thanks to the donors from the Unit of Switzerland through the St. Joseph Campaign, who responded commendably towards this project!

The school is divided into two sections, namely Pre-School Level (Baby, Middle and Reception Classes), with the capacity to enrol about ninety (90) children.

Primary School level should run from grade one to seven. At the moment we only have from grade one to five. The total number of pupils at the school is 180 at present from Pre-school to grade five. At full capacity it can cater for 270 pupils

17. CONDOLENCES

We would like to express our heartfelt condolences to all Confreres who recently lost some loved ones. In a special way to Fr. Willard Chishimba who lost his father Mr. Fidelis Mwenya Chishimba. Fr. Lewis Watuka who lost his cousin in Kasama. We also mourn with the Units that have lost members in the previous months. May the Almighty God console you all and may He grant eternal rest to all our deceased Confreres, brothers, sisters, friends and relatives.

18. A WORD OF GRATITUDE

I would like to thank you all Confreres for the spirit of collaboration we have in the Unit: Confreres working in different apostolates for your selfless commitment to your responsibilities, and the formators here in the Unit who journey with our young people. Confreres, I take this opportunity to 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. We are mandated to reflect deeply on our call, our way of

life, and on our mission mandate. At the same time I would like to thank the General Government for the continued support and guidance; in the same way I thank our benefactors who through their generosity enable us to perform our Mission Mandate. Gratitude also to our Associates for their unwavering support and collaboration.

Through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Blessed Fr. Engelmar Unzeitig and Abbot Francis Planner the Servant of God,

May God bless you.



Fr. Ivor Chaebwa CMM

Regional Superior – Zambia 30th June 2022.

