

## INFORMATION

- ❖ **PRETORIA NORTH-WEST DEANERY CLERGY MEETING.** Meeting to be held on the 22<sup>nd</sup> April at Good Shepherd parish, Winterveldt, Fr. Ian Doyle is the host.
- ❖ **9<sup>TH</sup> VICE PROVINCIAL ASSEMBLY.** Will be held on Tuesday, 29<sup>th</sup> April 2008 at Wildwoods, Curia Conference room at 9am. All confreres are asked to come with a copy of the *Precious Pearl*, Superior General's letter on On-Going Formation. Part of the meeting will be dedicated to discussing the document.
- ❖ **MSOLWASE SECONDARY SCHOOL.** The school reached 5<sup>th</sup> position amongst one thousand Tanzanian Secondary Schools. The results were; in Division 1: 63 students, Division 2: 8 students, Division 3: 2 students, Division 4: 0 students, Failures: 0 students. Nobody has ever failed in the history of the school. Congratulations!
- ❖ **BETHLEHEM DIOCESE.** Fr. Bernard Rakeketsi has finally entered into new experimental ministry in the area of Lindley. Lindley itself being the main parish with four other communities. We wish him good harvesting in this new place.
- ❖ **RECOLLECTION.** It will be held on the 13<sup>th</sup> May 2008.
- ❖ **PRETORIA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF CLERGY.** The Archdiocese of Pretoria will hold its Annual General Meeting on the 20<sup>th</sup> May 2008 at Lynnwood Parish at 9am.
- ❖ **DIAMOND JUBILEE.** The Archdiocese of Pretoria will be celebrating Diamond Jubilee (60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary) on the 31<sup>st</sup> May 2008. This will be celebrated by the whole Archdiocese at Pilditch Stadium in Pretoria

### Phones and e-mails of the Council

**Curia of Vice Province:** [holyredeemer.curia@yahoo.com](mailto:holyredeemer.curia@yahoo.com).  
Tel: 012 5421263. Fax: 08 66032016

**Vice Provincial:** +27 73 3805629 [prakeketsi@yahoo.com](mailto:prakeketsi@yahoo.com)

**Vicar:** +27 82 7420622 [linovinco@yahoo.com](mailto:linovinco@yahoo.com)

**Secretary:** +27 82 7825908 [matalasnel@yahoo.com](mailto:matalasnel@yahoo.com)

**Treasurer:** +27 76 6317514 [daniel.giacomelli@yahoo.com](mailto:daniel.giacomelli@yahoo.com)

**Sigmatine Website:** [www.stimmadini.org](http://www.stimmadini.org)



# Dumela

April 2008

Voice from the Vice Province  
Most Holy Redeemer

### *"One Heart and one Soul"*

Having passed through the celebrations of the Paschal Mysteries of Easter, we borrow the enthusiasm and joy of the experience of the early Church when the risen Lord became present in a new and permanent way among those who belonged to him. The Easter season invites all of us to rejoice for the gift of the new life that we have acquired in Christ. By his resurrection, Christ has restored the fullness of life to humanity, giving us an opportunity of joy, hope and confidence. However, on the other hand, a task remains with us to reciprocate this love of Christ that he has granted us.

The early community, inspired by the risen Christ, "... *were of one heart and one soul and no one said that any of the things which he possessed was his own, but they had everything in common*" (Acts 4:32). Their mode of thanksgiving to Christ was to live in common, to be together. They were united, not only to be under one roof, but they experienced an interior union of mind and soul. Unity was not, therefore, simply a question of the physical coming together of several people, but rather of their being in agreement, being unanimous.

Their central pillar was Christ himself. He not only appeared in their midst, but he also called them to follow him. He renewed his call to the disciples. Their unanimity was a result of a call and a decision to follow. But this second call differed from the first. Jesus had passed through the trial of suffering and death and been made perfect by the things he had suffered. In the same way the apostles had all passed through the trial of infidelity and denial.

I see Consecrated Life as a continuous experience of this early Church modelling itself on Jerusalem community. Our consecration is inspired by the baptismal calling to renew our lives. Perhaps, due to human frailty and sinfulness, we may have experienced in one way or another some form of infidelity and denial of our religious commitment. Notice that it forms part of Easter experience of dying to sin and rising with Christ in victory. In Matthew's Gospel, the invitation to post-Easter following is preceded by the dissolution of the pre-Easter experience (Matt. 26:31-32). The second call of Peter (Jn 21:15-17) is preceded by a threefold demand for an affirmation of love that recalls his threefold betrayal. The 'yes' given to this second call is a 'yes' purified by trial and made in full awareness of what it means to follow Jesus.

Many of us may identify with this experience of being called once again. We live in newness of life, community united heart and soul. The challenge is to maintain this value by engaging in constant relationship with the risen Lord, never to lose or fall again. Our unity must be based on the common faith of the apostles which was inseparable from their common hope. Living together with one sole purpose

of advancing the Kingdom. This unity must be lived out visibly by all of us, putting aside all apathy and instead living as brothers.

Remember that this unity, a model of our community life, was particularly strong when the Christians stood before God, either meeting in the Temple (Acts 2:46) or praying together (Acts 1:14). It was, moreover, bound up with the teaching of the apostles and the breaking of bread. The Eucharist, becomes the core of our unity, in the same way as the risen Christ was in the midst of the early community. It is the responsibility of each one of us to strive for this unity, inspired by the experience of Easter.

Fr. Patrick Rakeketsi  
Vice Provincial Superior

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### COMMUNITY NEWS: FOCUS ON Dar Es Salaam.



The community of Dar, is glad to present some of their daily life activities in general. Mtoni parish is situated within the unsurveyed/squatter area along the south of the city of Dar Es Salaam. That is where; Fr. Alessandro Di Tullio and Fr. Richard Rathari live together. For six months we have been joined by Brother Leonidas Angelo Kakoraki Deo Mukono who is on internship. Fr. Sandro is parish priest and assisted by Fr. Rich (i.e. Richard).

We have four Eucharistic Celebrations on Sundays; three in the main parish and one at the outstation which is almost 3km from the parish. Fr. Sandro celebrates the first Mass of 06h30 in the parish, followed by 08h15 Mass at the outstation. Then Fr. Rich takes over the second Mass at 08h30 and the 10h30. During the week we have daily Mass at 06h30. Every Tuesday evening we have parish pastoral council meetings and every Wednesday evening we have meetings with liturgical committee. Thursdays we devote it to visit the sick in their homes and usually we have funeral masses during the week. Saturdays are mainly for Marriages, and to say that there are many people getting married here. Just to give you a hint, the Saturday of the 19<sup>th</sup> April, we there are 19 couples coming to be married. Every weekend we will have wedding masses which normally will start at 15h00; it happens that we have sometimes five couples in a single celebration.



Honestly speaking, the ministry here is very much challenging and Fr. Rich and Br. Mukono are really having a lot of ministerial experiences. There is always something to do.

Since our area is poor, we have a lot of difficulties in dealing with poor people, we always have people coming with a lot of family or personal problems that need financial assistance. The parish priest, Fr. Sandro, spends a lot of time in the office. Regardless of that we are really trying to be fine.

Fr. Rich is learning Kiswahili very fast through the help of Fr. Sandro. Since arriving in Dar, Fr. Sandro never spoke an English word to him. He has improved so much that at this point he is able to preach directly without a translator.

Our community is thankful and we learn from each other. The Lord of the vineyard has made it possible for this two confreres, Frs Rich and Sandro to be together. Fr. Sandro has so much experience, especially coming to pastoral ministry, he has also good and informative knowledge of the Stigmatine history in the early years in South Africa and Tanzania; since he was among the founding Fathers, he has also information about Italy. The Holy Spirit does its part in making us to understand each other so much perfectly. It is interesting to see both Rich and Sandro in front of the computer typing. Fr. Sandro is one we say is computer 'illiterate', so Rich is there to type his emails for him and sometimes helps him to check messages on his cell phone, ooh you can laugh. We are quite close to each other, not imaginable thinking of the age difference!

Fr. Sandro starts his day in the early hours, like 03h30, which is when he does his prayers, alone. By the time the rest of us wake up he is already in Church preparing for Mass. Fr. Rich and Br. Mukono pray together at 06h00 and then go for Mass.

Otherwise we are almost settled. I think we should stop here for now. We will continue from here next time.

Ciao!

