

MISSIONARIES OF ST FRANCIS DE SALES

Fransalians - Province of East Africa

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Provincial Circular EAP- JK.51

July 12, 2017

Beloved Confreres,

Let us be focussed!

We are already in the second half of the year 2017. It looks as if we just wished one another, *Happy new year*, a few weeks ago. Does the clock tick faster than before? Or we try to squeeze as much as possible within the 24 hours every day ? It is a cry that we hear very often: *There is no time, there is no time...* It is true! After I have done everything **what I WANT TO do**, there is no time left for **what I HAVE TO do**. Do we not sometimes occupy ourselves with trivial things that when it comes to doing my primary obligations, I have no time for that. People see us always busy. But what are we really busy with, is a fundamental question we need to ask.

Our Life that is ahead of us here on earth, is just the distance between now and death. The measuring point for the rest of my life starts now. From **now to death** is the life that I have in my hands. What is of the past is no more in our capacity to bring back. Let us make use of every moment to do what we really have to do. Above all let us remember: ***Today is the first day of the rest of our life.***

Entry into the Noviciate

In a simple and prayerful ceremony, on July 9, 2017, the following pre-novices were initiated into the Canonical Noviciate at Fransalianum, Kibaha.

Chad-Cameroon Mission / South West India Province

1. Chidjo Bertrand
2. Djoitanan Paulin
3. Fonyuy Felix
4. Nkong Eric
5. Takougoum Frankvart

East Africa Province

6. Eboys Peter
7. Ikachuli Dismas
8. Kabagambe Antony
9. Lazaro Nicholas
10. Lobong Moses
11. Lule Joseph
12. Masereka Richard

13. Nimusiima, Xavier
14. Orikiriza Darius
15. Wakoba John
16. Wamakale Abraham
17. Wanjala Justine
18. Wanji Pascal

We wish our young novices a blessed time of prayer and discernment.

First Profession

On July 10, 2017 following brothers made the first profession. The Most Holy Eucharist was presided over by Rev. Fr. Petrus Kullu MSFS the Delegation Superior of the Mozambique Delegation. The ceremony took at place in the St. Francis de Sales Parish Church Mkuza.

Chad-Cameroon Mission/ SW India Province

1. Adzaba Evang William Favier Henri
2. Mbinkar Melchisedek Nsoyuka
3. Nga Modo Engelbert
4. Yibongha David Shiynyuy
5. Nzesseu Chimi Valentin
6. Yongabi Macdonald

Mozambique Delegation/ Nagpur Province

7. Zitto Americo Muirelia
8. Joa'o Xavier Fernando
9. Lui's Andre' Manuel

East Africa Province

10. Linto Vargheese
11. Dennis William Minja
12. Nyamweya Eric Nyabuga
13. Albert Momanyi Ombati

We welcome you dear brothers to the Fransalian family. We wish you all the blessings in the further stages of formation.

Fr. Sunny Kurian Mattathil MSFS: Silver Jubilee of Priestly Ordination: Congrats!!!

Fr. Sunny was born on July 25, 1964 at Kidangoor, Kottayam Dt, Kerala, India - to the parents Mr M. V. Kurian and Mrs Mary Mattathil. He has one brother and three sisters. His father was called in eternal life in on March 25, 2012. His mother is now with his brother in India. One of the sisters is a religious sister called Sr. Jolly Kurian S.A.T. (St. Anns of Trichy). Other two sisters are settled in Australia with their families.

The baby Sunny was baptized on August 2, 1964 and was given the Christian name Sebastian. He received the sacrament of confirmation on April 30, 1974. After

completing his secondary school at NSS High School Kidangoor, he joined SFS Seminary Ettumanoor on June 14, 1980. After having completed the orientation for one year and then the pre-university program he was admitted for the pre-noviciate at SFS Institute Philipnagar in Andhra Pradesh in the year 1983. In December the same year he was admitted to the Canonical Noviciate and made his first profession on December 15, 1984. This was followed by six months of post-noviciate program - giving him a real taste of the mission life in Andhra Pradesh.

From 1985 to 1988 he did his three years of Philosophy formation at Suvidya College, Bangalore and simultaneously obtained the B.A in Anthropology from the Dharward University, Karnataka. It was at this time the Holy Spirit inspired the then *Brother Sunny* to opt for the then "Tanzanian Mission". His option was accepted and he was one of the first scholastics to reach East Africa on January 1, 1989. After having done four months of Swahili language course at Kipalapala he also continued his regency in Lububu. From July 1989 to May 1993 he did his Theology formation at St. Paul's Major Seminary, Kipalapala, Tabora. He made his final profession on December 8, 1991 in Lububu. He was ordained priest on June 30, 1993 in Holy Cross Forane Church Cherpunkal, in the Diocese of Palai by His Lordship Most Rev. Joseph Pallickaparambil of the Diocese of Palai.

He served first as the Assistant Parish Priest in Our Lady of Grace Parish Lububu, from 1993 to 1996. Then he was appointed as the Parish Priest in the same parish - an assignment which he continued till February 1999 when he was transferred to MSFS Community Itaga and was appointed as the Parish Priest of St. Antony of Padua, Parish Itaga, in the Archdiocese of Tabora. Later in June 2002 he was appointed as the Parish Priest in Kahama-Mbulu Parish in the Diocese of Kahama. In the year 2006 upon the bifurcation of the erstwhile Kahama-Mbulu Parish to three new parishes of Kahama-Mbulu, Kagongwa and Isaka, the parish of Isaka under the patronage of St. Francis de Sales, was entrusted to the MSFS and Fr. Sunny was appointed as the first parish priest. After having worked there almost two years, he was asked to move from *West to the East of East Africa* - to the new MSFS Venture in Mji Mpya Relini, Archdiocese of Dar es Salaam in 2008. After seven years of very commendable services in Mji Mpya he moved out of Tanzania in the year 2015 when he was transferred to Agururu, in the Archdiocese of Tororo, Uganda where he works to this day as the parish priest of St. Bruno Parish, Agururu. He also served as the Provincial Councillor for four terms 1999-2002; 2002-2005, 2008-2011 and 2011-2014. At present he also serves as the Mission coordinator for Uganda.

Missionary to the Core. This is the attribute I would like to give to Fr. Sunny Mattathil when I think of him. He is a very unassuming person, a missionary who does not count the cost. He has no hesitations to go to the *periphery*. He has just immersed himself into the culture of the place. But he does not make compromises when it comes to the mission. As a person of prayer he trusts in the Providence of God. Everyone enjoys his company and we have all shared many memorable moments of fun and relaxation with him. As a priest and pastor, as a missionary and as a fellow religious we have in the person of Fr. Sunny someone who cares for the folk. Imbued with Salesian hospitality Fr. Sunny is a person who can accommodate anyone in his life. No one is kept outside the network of cordiality. He is a man who forgives and seeks forgiveness. He feels one with the suffering and the needy and looks for means and ways to help them out.

As he has just entered into the jubilee year, let us thank God for the gift of his very person, for his beloved parents, siblings, relatives, teachers and formators and everyone who played their role in making what he is today for us, for the Catholic Church and for the society. We wish Fr. Sunny a very grace-filled time in this year of Jubilee.

St. Francis de Sales, Parish Kashishi

On July 2, 2017 one more new parish was erected under the patronage of St. Francis de Sales in the remote village of Kashishi, in the Archdiocese of Tabora, Tanzania. Kashishi was one of the outstations of Itaga Parish which the MSFS served from 1990 to 2015. Up on the completion of term of contract, the parish was entrusted back to the Archdiocese and we moved to one of its outstations 100 kms away from Tabora town. The new parish has 26 centres including the substations and prayer centres. Some of the centres were added from Uliyangulu Parish.

Archbishop His Grace Most Rev. Paul Ruzoka reached the place on July 1 Saturday and administered the sacrament of confirmation to over 70 faithful. On July 2 Sunday, amidst an exuberant crowd of faithful, in the presence of many priests and religious, the parish was officially declared to be opened and Fr. Innocent Ngowi MSFS was installed as the first parish priest. The Archbishop in his message, while congratulating the faithful for being given the honour of becoming a parish, also appreciated the MSFS for the bold step of moving to the "peripheries". He also recalled with gratitude the yeomen services rendered by MSFS in the pastoral works, education and in caring for the needy.

Our sincere appreciation to the faithful of Kashishi village and all the outstations. We also congratulate Fr. Innocent Ngowi MSFS the parish priest and Fr. Joseph Kayanja MSFS the assistant for all the ground work in making the day a graceful one. May St. Francis de Sales intercede for this new mission given to us by God.

Baraka 11 - out of the press

The eleventh issue of Baraka News Magazine is already printed. You can also see them soon in this link. <http://www.msfs-eastafrika.com> Congratulations to Fr. Clement and team for the great efforts to bring out Baraka in good quality. The next issue is due by the end of December. Please give your quality contributions at the earliest. (editorbaraka@gmail.com).

News Snippets

- **Fr. Jomat Kollapallil MSFS** was giving retreat for the DMI Sisters in Morogoro from July 3 -7 . There is another session for the same congregation in August. Congratulations, prayers and good wishes.
- There was a **Youth Gathering in Bukene** Parish on July 1 and 2. More than 200 young ones gathered in the parish with various activities, of seminar, prayer and worship and entertainments. - Congratulations!!
- One day program of **Spiritual renewal for the university students** was organized by the scholastics in Fransalian House Kola on June 24, 2017. There were 273 university students who spent the whole day in Fransalian house, listening to the Word of God, in prayer and worship and many receiving the sacrament of reconciliation. The program came to an end with the Eucharistic celebration. Well done brothers...
- **Fr. David Susai MSFS** is already in Germany. Now he is attending the advanced German language and pastoral orientation program arranged by the Diocese. Congratulations and good wishes to Fr. David.

- We have 18 Engineering students from the **Catholic University of Santiago, Chile** now sharing their knowhow in Africa as part of their Social Entrepreneurship requirement of their studies. We extend a warm welcome to them and wish them a good time of enriching experiences.

Prayers requested for the departed ones

- **Bro Anthony Chalackal MSFS** of Nagpur Province was called to eternal life on June 4, 2017. He was 79 years old.
- **Mr. Alvarez Timothy Danda**, the elder brother of our beloved confrere Fr. Aristides Danda MSFS, was called to eternal life on June 10, 2017. He was 43 years old.
- **Mr Japhet Kaburia**, the maternal uncle of our beloved confrere Fr. Japhet Kirimi, was called to eternal life on June 14, 2017. He was 66 years old.

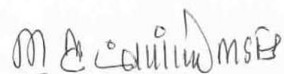
Beloved confreres,

As we prepare for the very significant event of installation of the new Provincial on July 15 in Morogoro and the second session of retreat from July 16, in Dodoma, let us very earnestly seek the blessings of God. These days many of us will be travelling, long distances. Let us travel in the loving and caring hand of God.

Remember the saying:

Do not drive faster than your guardian angel can fly!

Entrusting each one of you in the loving and caring hands of God,



Fr. Johnson Kallidukil MSFS

(Provincial Superior MSFS East Africa Province)

God is strong and can help you not to fall. He can bring you before his glory without any wrong in you and give you great joy. He is the only God. He is the One who saves us. To him be glory, greatness, power, and authority through Jesus Christ our Lord for all time past, now, and forever. Amen.

Jude. 24, 25