

SSS INTERNATIONAL

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Fr. Jackson assumes Rectorship of the Eucharistic Shrine of Saint Peter-Julian Eymard in Sete Lagoas

Last **9 February 2019** during the celebration at 6 p.m. at the Saint Peter-Julian Eymard Shrine of Adoration in Sete Lagoas, MG, Brazil, Father Jackson Frota sss received the role of Rector of the Eucharistic Shrine. Considered the heart of the diocese, the S.P.J.E. shrine daily welcomes hundreds of people from all sectors of the diocese, who in faith come to encounter Jesus in the intimacy of prayer and eucharistic adoration.



The moving celebration was presided by the Bishop of the Diocese of Sete Lagoas, Most Rev. Aloísio Vitral, who during his homily spoke of the importance that the Blessed Sacrament has for his life and vocation, as well as of his acquaintance and friendship with many of our Fathers, among whom, Most Rev. Jorge Alves Bezerra, the Bishop of the

Diocese of Paracatú, who concelebrated and honoured Father Jackson by his presence.

The following persons were also present at the celebration: Father Armindo Duque Magalhães, who especially travelled from Fortaleza, representing the Community of San Benedito and bearing with him the sincere affection of the whole community; Father Ismael Destefani from the Community of Rio de Janeiro; Fr. Vittorio Baggi and Fr. Raimundo Dan; the Community Boa Viagem with the Postulants and Pre-novices; Father Marcelo Carlos Da Silva, the Provincial of the Congregation; members of the faithful and some lay men and women of the Aggregation of the Blessed Sacrament.

This was also a fitting occasion to welcome Father Juan Enrique Pacheco Chávez, who comes from Chile to form part of this community, to which his service adds strength as regards ministry and fraternal community life.



The community of Sete Lagoas thus comprises the following members: Fr. Raimundo, Fr. Jackson and Fr. Juan Enrique.

All God's blessings on this new community and through it may the Eucharist continue to be spread to the four corners of the world.

SSS PROVINCIALATE



Promises of the Aggregates at Holy Spirit parish of Mpaka

The Eymardian Family became enlarged on Saturday **16 February 2019** when thirteen Aggregates of the Blessed Sacrament made their promises; three of these were men, ten were women. The eucharistic celebration was presided by Father Jean Jacques Nkodia sss, the parish priest and superior of the community of Pointe Noire. On behalf of the Regional Superior he received their commitment.

At 10:30 am, though the weather was overcast, the Saint Esprit parish pulsated to the rhythm of the melodies of the Blessed Sacrament choir. In his exhortation taken from the Gospel of St John 6:41-51, Fr. Jean-Jacques said in substance: "Christ fulfilled the will of the Father on the Cross. He unconditionally agreed to give himself up for human-kind to have life, and life in God. However, the only condition he asks of us is to love one another. It is in this same perspective that the Eucharist is essentially the sacrament of love. Therefore, the fact that we love one another is but a consequence of being created in the image and likeness of God."

Father Jean-Jacques went on to offer advice to the aggregates in bringing out a link between the text of the day and their commitment. He pointed out that an aggregate's life must be tinged with the Eucharist through living the Eucharist according to its three dimensions, that is to say, through participating in the Mass, spending time in adoration and bearing witness to the Eucharist in the society. In this way, Saint Peter-Julian is our model par excellence. And he continued by asking all to live their status as Aggregates in accordance with the Life Project.

The new members had prepared spiritually for making their promises by a three-day spiritual retreat at St. John the Baptist Parish in Nzassi, a parish run by the diocesan priests of Pointe Noire on the Congo/ Angola border. It was animated by Brother Ephrem Uldaric Mabika sss, a religious integrated in the pastoral and communal work of the community

of Pointe Noire. The theme was the Eucharist, the source of our life, which Brother Ephrem based on the texts about the Burning Bush (Ex 3:1-10) and about the Samaritan woman (Jn 4:1-42). He ended his talks with the question about knowing what the Eucharist gives us to live. In short, the Eucharist is the Passover that unites our life, it constitutes the most perfect realisation of the Church and it is the celebration in which is summarized all that is most essential in the life of the Church.

After the thanksgiving the person in charge of the group of Aggregates spoke, thanking first the Lord, who is the Teacher of life and Author of the vocations, then Father Jean-Jacques for having trust in them, then the preacher of the retreat and finally those who took part in the liturgy. The parish priest of Saint Esprit then expressed gratitude in turn to everyone for the success of the day and invited the new members to kindle the Eucharistic fire in all corners of the world. It was with these words that the celebration ended.

On leaving, the new Aggregates were congratulated by the other Aggregates, and a family photo was taken bringing the liturgical celebration to a close. Refreshments were provided by the community as a sign of fraternity and solidarity between members of the same family.



We recalled also that on the same date Father Jean-Jacques was celebrating his birthday. The meal thus commemorated these two festivities in joy that spread through the walls of the SSS community of Pointe Noire.

We end our account with Saint Peter-Julian Eymard's greeting to the Virgin Mary, Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament: "*Let us rejoice. Let us greet the beautiful day of Mary, the joy of heaven, the consolation of the earth, the terror of hell. Finally*

here she is the strong woman, the true mother of the living, the predestined mother of the Messiah, Jesus Christ. She has in her all the qualities of greatness.” (cf. PO 15,1).

May Christ live forever in the Most Blessed Sacrament. May the Eymardian Family live and increase.

BROTHER EPHREM MABIKA, SSS

of Congo, they returned to Uganda and made their perpetual profession on the 23rd of February 2019. Celebrating the Eucharist and receiving the Vows of his brothers on behalf of the Provincial Superior, Father Ferdinand S. Tomo sss, called on the Perpetualists to remain faithful to their chosen vocation and ministry. He asked the Perpetualists to pass on the charism of the Congregation in whatever they say and do, as they have now become the extension of Father Eymard, bringing Christ closer to the people of God, so that Christ's Eucharistic kingdom may reign in this troubled and challenging world.



Professions of Perpetual Vows and Ordinations

The year 2019 will remain a year to remember in the life and history of the SSS Uganda foundation. It is a year given to remember the marvels of the Lord in this little Eymardian Family. Indeed, for everything there is a season... a time to plant and a time to pluck what was planted (Eccl. 3:1-2). This year is a season of harvest for this little Eymardian Family.

Together with the entire Congregation, the Province of Our Lady of the Assumption - Philippines-Uganda-Hawaii (USA), we celebrate with joy the perpetual birth of three sons of Eymard in the Congregation by their perpetual consecration to religious life, ordination to diaconate and priesthood.

Three brothers: Zikusooka Simon Peter sss, Ssenkasi Denis sss, and Nsambu Herbert sss, after their scholasticate formation in the Democratic Republic of Congo and a successful period of preparation for perpetual profession in the Republic



Following the perpetual profession, the following day, Sunday 24th February, we celebrated the ordination to the diaconate of the three brothers, Simon, Denis and Herbert, and the ordination to priesthood of Father John Musingo sss. This was done by the imposition of hands by Most Rev. John Baptist Kaggwa, Bishop of Masaka, together with his priests at our very parish, Blessed Sacrament Parish, Kimaanya Masaka. The four newly ordained were joined by Father Tony Akena sss, who was ordained a week earlier in his home parish of Aduku, Lira Diocese, by Most Rev. Joseph Franzeli, Bishop emeritus of Lira Diocese.



Witnessed by people from all walks of life both in Lira and Masaka, this event has gone down into our history: three deacon and two priests at the same time in our little Eymardian Family. It was also a moment of great joy and celebration with our families, collaborators, friends of the newly ordained and all those who have sacrificed whatever they could to see them through their journey. After the Mass, the bishop was hosted in our community as the festivities continued in the Parish compound, with the newly ordained, their families' friends and the parishioners of Kimaanya and other parishes, celebrating indeed as you would at the time of harvesting. And at this time a very rich harvest of deacons and priests.

Our newly ordained brothers have come at a moment of wanting. We thank the Lord of the harvest for these wonderful gifts to the Church and the Eymardian Family. We continue to pray that they continue to be men of passion, love, dedication and commitment in order to bring people to the Altar of God by making the Eucharist the center of their life, to love and live the Eucharist.

FATHER GEORGE SSALI, SSS



News from Mozambique

SSS vocations

On 5 February 2019 at the Foyer we celebrated the official entry of our 6 youths into the postulancy programme. The Mass was presided by Father Agostinho Maholele sss in the presence of Father Geraldo Uaiare sss, the superior of Maputo, Father Humberto Kuijpers sss, formator of the Foyer and Brother Félix Florindo Tupasso sss, who is at present living at the Foyer as an assistant formator, as well as two members of the Aggregation. At the end of the celebration we shared a meal together.

The quest for their vocation as a Blessed Sacrament religious puts youth on the path towards the source. Thus, Domingos Guilherme José is among the youth of the first year at the St Peter-Julian Eymard Foyer. Domingos comes from Balama in the north of Mozambique, situated 2500 kilometres from Maputo. He made a journey taking 4 days by car and, according to what he said in an interview, he had a great deal of difficulty during his trip since this was the first time he was coming to

Maputo. But, he wasn't deterred. This is why he thanks God for leading him until he arrived at the St Peter-Julian Eymard Foyer in Maputo.

So at the Foyer we have 6 postulants and 15 aspirants, making a total of 21 youths living in three seminaries: 11 of them in the intermediate seminary, 7 at the major seminary of philosophy and 3 at the Superior Institute Mary, Mother of Africa (ISMMA). The region having most vocations in Mozambique is at the centre of the country, namely, the province of Zambézia. But, what is important is that we have students from all the regions at our Foyer, which is a richness.

Father Agostinho Maholele heading for Rome

On 10 February 2019 the Blessed Sacrament community together with the missionary team of the St Anne parish of Munhuana arranged a day to bid farewell to Father Agostinho Maholele sss, who was departing for Rome to undertake his new responsibility as General Consultor of the Congregation.

This day began in the St Peter-Julian Eymard chapel with adoration animated by the missionaries and some guests who were invited for this occasion. It ended at the mother house of Maputo after a meal shared by all the Blessed Sacrament confreres of the community together with the missionary team.



The death of a brother will be celebrated as a Paschal event filled with hope. We shall faithfully carry out the prescribed prayers for our deceased (RL 13).

N. 1555 - Father José Antonio Perea Armentia

Province:	O.L. of the Blessed Sacrament
Community:	Madrid-S.de Baranda, Spain
Death:	2 February 2019
Age:	87
Profession:	66
Priesthood:	61



N. 1556 - Father Robert Talbot

Province:	Saint John the Baptist
Community:	Quebec, Canada
Death:	16 February 2019
Age:	85
Profession:	63
Priesthood:	56

