

SSS INTERNATIONAL

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SSS Generalate
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Two new deacons at Dakar

Brothers Gabriel Faye Sagna and Jules Souleymane Diatta made their perpetual vows and were ordained deacons on Saturday and Sunday, 3 and 4 May, in the parish of St Peter of Baobabs at Dakar.

On the Saturday afternoon they made their perpetual profession in the Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament. Bishop Luis Mariano Montemayor, the Apostolic Nuncio, presided at the prayerful ceremony. The parish priest, Martin Sambou, confreres of the Region, the former Provincial Superior of Italy, Father Rizieri Santi, as well as a number of male and female religious were present. The singing of the choir was appreciated by all. Much fervour and feeling was evident on this beautiful occasion. A festive drink was then shared in the grounds of the parish house.



On Sunday 4 May, the third Sunday of Easter, the Mass of their diaconal ordination was celebrated by Cardinal Théodore Adrien Sarr. Father Martin Sambou welcomed "the Christian family". The Cardinal addressed the two new deacons, beginning

his homily with the words: "This is an invitation for meeting," adding then, "the time has come to allow oneself to be embraced by Christ." He appropriately cited then the words: "For I haven't come down from heaven to do my will, but to do the will of him who sent me" (Jn 6:38).

The choir enhanced the celebration with beautiful chants. Joy, the dominant note of Paschal time, sounded through the whole Mass. Afterwards a convivial meal was organised in the parish hall by the Region of Our Lady of Africa for the members of the Aggregation, priests, male and female religious and the families of the two confreres. There followed lively festivities that brought joy to the guests around the deacons Gabriel and Jules.

"Remain with us Lord."

MR JEAN MAURICE HETUIN (TEACHER)
A friend of the community.



To love work as employed and unemployed

The idea of this project comes from Fr Giuseppe Rossi, a Blessed Sacrament Father from the Piano di Sorrento Community, in Italy. He goes around visiting different parishes to meet the priests of the Sorrento Peninsula, to listen to them and to be available for help in ministry. His travelling has allowed him to observe the various and large fruit and vegetable orchards that are almost abandoned, even though this is a time of economical crisis and unemployment.

Even in this area, despite the activities on the coast (beach resorts) and on the sea (ships and cruise lines), there are many unemployed youth and middle

age people, a reality that touches almost every family. Meeting Rosario and Marinina and their availability to find solutions for this problem made it possible to believe that cleaning the orchards – in agreement with the owners and for their own advantage, as well as for the advantage of the unemployed – could've been the beginning of a dynamism of hope and positive energies. The money for the prospected work could've come from the owners themselves or from a solidarity fund. We started meeting and sharing this project with all sorts of different people – the owners of the orchards or their acquaintances, parish priests, nuns, religious institutes, different volunteer associations, rich landowners, and mayors from the different municipalities of the area. On 99% of the cases the only answers were mistrust and absolutely negative responses.

One day, being welcomed by the mayor of Piano, we came to know about the CRE association. This association provides hippotherapy opportunities for youth with disabilities and benefits with an agreement for use from a garden owned by the city. We immediately got in touch with them and straight away realized we could collaborate together in doing something to benefit the unemployed. We met with the people responsible who told us about their 20 year long story of working to help youth with disabilities. We were asked to start working on a piece of land where they were already breeding chickens, hens, ducks, geese, rabbits and also horses and ponies. There is also cultivation of various vegetables and some fruit trees. A young adult called Bruno works very hard, helped by only one person, motivated by the will to live and support his family. They asked us to create a group of volunteers to keep the land in order, cultivating and breeding, but also by providing a safe environment for the many youth and parents who, from March to the end of the summer, enjoy going around the land.

We had a very good idea and we realized it immediately: we asked some women, all experts in preparing jams and liquors particularly from the fruits produced in the orange and lemon orchards, to open the initial path of the project. Displaying the products in the streets outside our churches, beginning with the church of the Blessed Sacrament Fathers, we met different people and explained to them about our project with the unemployed and how they could help with the solidarity fund or by buying our products.

From March 10th everything started working. A team of experienced pruners carried out a first work of pruning all the plants present in the CRE garden. Some days later some of the unemployed people took turns in keeping the land clean, always guided by Bruno. In the future different people who have to deal with usury (and helped by the anti-usury association of the Diocese) will be helped to earn their daily bread through their efforts.

We had made endless phone calls and appointments to meet parish priests, mayor, the Bishop, the Diocesan Caritas organizations present in the area, the volunteer groups...! We must acknowledge that at present the jams and liquors made by the group of women has been the trump card to open the eyes of people to the problem of unemployment. Even the Bishop was impressed by our idea and would like for the Diocese to contribute to this project.



Giuseppe Rossi (2nd left) and his collaborators

We are not capable of resolving the unemployment problem ... we want to make people love to work, beginning with working the land, even in this time of crisis. We don't want any more depressed people. We have committed ourselves to this ideal because, as Mass cannot be celebrated without the fruit of the earth and of the work of our hands, life is not worth being lived without work, even the most humble kind, like the one on the land. Try it to believe it.

Who do we need to thank during this journey? A surgeon, a business consultant, a lawyer, the young and old who work at the sea, a cook, various mothers, an old couple ... We want to thank also the people who still don't know us but who, listening to our story of courage, will create things that are even more courageous.

Rosario, Marinina and Fr Giuseppe Rossi sss



Novena of prayer in the parish of St Monica

More than two thousand seven hundred (2700) Christians of St Monica's parish took part in the novena of prayer organized by the parish priest, Barthélémy Kangu, from 3 to 11 April 2014. Animated by Brother Donat Bilo, this novena was around the theme: "Novena for healing and freedom of the genealogical family tree up to the fourth generation" (Ex 20:5-6; Lv 26:40; Rm 5:19-20). For nine days, Brother Donat Bilo showed the faithful Christians how we can mourn our sins and those of our ancestors through prayer, to obtain forgiveness and mercy of God for the remission of our own and their sins. During this entire time there was also organized each day opportunity for the people to go to confession in order to restore their friendship with the Lord. On the same occasion, certain objects of prayer, like rosaries, were sold. This prayer of novena was closed by a Mass of thanksgiving celebrated by Father Barthélémy Kangu, the parish priest.

The members of the Aggregation of Kikwit shared a fraternal meal with the SSS religious

On last Holy Thursday, the first day of the Paschal Triduum, the members of the Aggregation of the Blessed Sacrament in St Monica's parish, of the Kikwit diocese, came to share a convivial meal with the religious of the Blessed Sacrament of St Augustine's parish of Kikwit. At noon the sons and daughters of St Peter-Julian Eymard gathered around the superior of the Kikwit community, singing hymns in honour of the holy Founder to show the force of the Eucharist that stretches from East to West in drawing people to take part at the same table, next to one another in fraternal dialogue. This initiative pertains to the very meaning of the Eucharistic spirituality of Holy Thursday, when Jesus gathered around the same table with the Twelve to express to them his infinite love.

Easter in St Monica's parish

More than 4500 Christians of St Monica's parish took part in the Mass on Easter Sunday, 20 April 2014. It must be said that the Christians of this parish are from now on committed regarding their last day of salvation; this is what explains their increasingly strong participation in spiritual activities of their parish or their daily witness of efforts in living. Although their parish church is small, they had taken all possible

measures to ensure Easter is celebrated well: the area around the church was thoroughly cleaned, the interior of the church well decorated, everything done to proclaim the resurrection of the King of kings. Two Masses were organised, one in the parish and another in the Kibangu sector. As regards those taking part in the liturgy, everyone was well prepared to celebrate worthily the mystery of Christ's death and resurrection. For the Paschal Vigil, the Mass was celebrated by the Vicar General of the diocese of Kikwit, Bishop Bertin Kipanza, who also baptised and confirmed four catechumens at this same occasion. The message preached was one: Christ's resurrections and the resurrection of all Christians from their old attitudes means they arise from the tomb in leaving everything that is contrary to God's Law.

BR. DONAT BILO, SSS
Scholastic



158th Anniversary of the Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament

"If I understand the beauty of hope, I wouldn't precipitate in bringing about God's design" (John Paul II).

On the anniversary of the Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament, I greet you on behalf of the SSS religious, laity and parishioners of the Cenacle of St Benedict at Fortaleza-Ceara, which is a new enthusiastic initiative in our zeal and our love for the Eucharistic mission encompassing all aspects of our service. I hope that on this 13th May, inspired by the Mother of our Lord Jesus Christ, Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament may intercede for the entire SSS family for the spread of God's knowledge in the world.



May our Founder, St Peter-Julian Eymard, continue to accompany us after these 158 years, inspiring us with audacity and commitment in everything that we learn with him about the service of the Eucharistic Christ.

As St John Paul II used to tell us, time is our ally and hence let us allow God to accompany us even more in our charism throughout the world. I most cordially greet you on behalf of the all the faithful at the Cenacle of St Benedict.

FR JACKSON FROTA, SSS
Parish priest



Bloom where I am planted

Br. Renoir just finished his Pastoral Year in the Province of Sts. Peter and Paul (Great Britain and Ireland).

Is this a foretaste of missionary life? Did God answer my prayer before?

Actually it is my desire and I prayed for it even. I am now a missionary in a foreign land where I am of service in my own little way.

It was over ten months ago when I was seeded on the ground of the Celts. As I was newly planted, I experienced a lot of challenges. I exerted much effort in adjusting to the new environment because it was totally unusual; it was totally different! This is for real. There were lots of hesitations. I was too young. Questions started to pop out. Will I bear fruit here in Ireland? Will I make it to the end of my pastoral year? Fears and doubts crept in. But holding on to the faith that I am not alone gave me inspiration. God is with me and that is for sure. And certainly he brought me here, planted only to bloom later on.

It was through my “openness” that the new horizon of my entire being appeared before my eyes. It was my openness that helped me open the seed coat so that leaves may come out. I must not be afraid; I should take the risk in the name of love and service for others. Thus, I remember Jesus when he once said: “Do not be afraid.” In this pastoral experience, I learned to open and empty myself so that God may enter in. He serves as the inner voice reverberating from within. As the prophet Jeremiah would say: “Don’t be afraid of them for I am with you and will rescue you” (Jer. 1:8). This led me to total surrender. Now I am resolved, I was planted in foreign soil because God knows I have something to give.

Indeed, it was not easy to be with other people, to deal with different life situations. It was not easy to be in a mission. But, openness and surrendering are the way which led me to maturity. It is God who is in control.



When I was planted here I learned to appreciate their seasons – summer, fall, winter and spring. It is actually close to the reality of life, especially my life: the summer season reminds me that God’s grace is overflowing. His love is strong and constant. Wherever I go during this time all is green, green which calls my attention of the constancy of God’s never-ending presence. The season of fall is the constant challenge of pruning to gain fruit eventually. This I equate with the challenges I had in my exposures which actually took me out from my comfort zones. The season of winter reminds me on the other hand of the times that I want to quit from my journey because of losing hope. Probably, because of loneliness I am confronted with most of the time. However, God sends white flakes from the skies which actually bring joy. They are people and events who guided me along the way. Spring comes next. New life has to come out. Like the daffodils and tulips starting to flower and the trees buds started to come out. A new beginning!

Planted in overseas land, I bloomed in spirit at the same time. With so much joy, I have to go back from time to time to the very source which is Jesus in the Eucharist - the source of my joy and total self-giving. As St. Peter Julian would say: “Return, return to the source: Jesus in the Eucharist.” Thus, I am very thankful to those who helped me become a better person and good religious of the Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament.

BR. RENOIR Z. OLIVER JR., SSS
Province of Philippines



Provincial and Regional Councils

Elections 2014 - for 4 years

Province *Kristu Jyoti*

India

15 May 2014

Superior Provincial *Fr Jegaraj Hari JOSEPH*

16 May 2014

Vicar Provincial *Fr Arputha Raj B. BANGAR*

Provincial Consultors *Fr Joseph JACOB*
Fr Dominic S. HARIKOTI

Provincial Treasurer *Fr Benizi Philip ROMICIAN*

Delegate to the General Chapter *Fr Punithan A. JOSEPH*

Substitute Delegate to the GC *Fr Santiago SEBASTIARAJ*



From left to right : *Dominic Harikoti, Benizi Romician, Jegaraj Hari Joseph, Arputha Raj Bangar, Joseph Jacob*



Province *Saints Peter and Paul*

Grande-Bretagne - Ireland

21 May 2014

Superior Provincial *Fr Peter DOWLING*

Vicar Provincial *Fr Melville WRIGHT*

Provincial Consultors *Fr James CAMPBELL*
Fr Timothy MCLOUGHLIN

Provincial Treasurer *Fr James CAMPBELL*

Delegate to the General Chapter

Fr James CAMPBELL

Substitute Delegate to the GC

Fr Melville WRIGHT



From left to right : *James Campbell, Peter Dowling, Melville Wright, Timothy McLoughlin*



Province *Bienheureux Isidore Bakanja*

Democratic Republic of Congo

29 May 2014

Superior Provincial *Fr Anaclet BAMBALA*

Vicar Provincial *Fr François KATASI*

Provincial Consultors *Fr Olivier NDONDO*
Fr Patrick ADIDOLO

Provincial Treasurer *Fr Michel LUKIKEBA*

Delegate to the General Chapter

Fr Thaddée MUPAPA

Substitute Delegate to the GC

Fr Antoine MAKELA



From left to right : *Michel Lukikeba, Olivier Ndondo, Anaclet Bambala, François Katasi, Patrick Adidolo*

Province Saint Jean Baptiste
Canada

10 June 2014

Superior Provincial *Fr Ghislain COSSETTE*

11 June 2014

Vicar Provincial *Fr Jean RATTÉ*
 Provincial Consultors *Fr Robert TALBOT*
Fr Robert GRONDIN
Fr Emilien LE BLANC
 Provincial Treasurer *Fr Emilien LE BLANC*

Delegate to the General Chapter
Fr Jean RATTÉ

Substitute Delegate to the GC
Fr Gérard BUSQUE



From left to right : Robert Talbot, Robert Grondin, le Supérieur général Eugênio Barbosa Martins, Ghislain Cossette, le Conseiller général Giulio Maccali, Jean Ratté, Emilien Le Blanc



Ghislain Cossette and Eugênio Barbosa Martins

N. 1463 - Father René RAMONDENC

Province : Saint Peter Julian Eymard
 Communauté: Paris, France
 Died: 25 May 2014
 Age : 77
 Profession : 54 Priesthood : 47



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. 1456 - Father José Maria ALBERDI LIZASO

Province : O. L. of the Blessed Sacrament
 Community: Madrid-C.de Maria, Spain
 Died: 4 April 2014
 Age : 87
 Profession : 67 Priesthood : 61

N. 1457 - Father James HEGARTY

Province : Saints Peter and Paul
 Community: Dublin, Ireland
 Died: 26 April 2014
 Age : 81
 Profession : 51 Priesthood : 25

N. 1458 - Father Egidio DOLDI

Province : O. Lady of Guadalupe
 Community: Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
 Died: 27 April 2014
 Age : 84
 Profession : 66 Priesthood : 59

N. 1459 - Brother Pierre VERVILLE

Province : Saint John the Baptist
 Community: Montréal-St Hubert, Canada
 Died: 10 May 2014
 Age : 74
 Profession : 54

N. 1460 - Father Nelson RODRIGUEZ RABELO

Province : O. Lady of Guadalupe
 Community: Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
 Died: 14 May 2014
 Age : 93
 Profession : 65 Priesthood : 41

N. 1461 - Father Carlos Eugenio GERK

Province : O. Lady of Guadalupe
 Community: Rosario, Argentina
 Died: 14 May 2014
 Age : 64
 Profession : 33 Priesthood : 29

N. 1462 - Father Josef RUNGGER

Province : O. L. of the Blessed Sacrament
 Community: Merano, Italy
 Died: 21 May 2014
 Age : 82
 Profession : 58 Priesthood : 37