

Provincial Desk March 2024 **Provincial Desk**

THE LORD IS RISEN



As we approach the glorious celebration of the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ, I extend to each and every one of you my heartfelt Easter greetings. We are entering Easter season with solemn celebrations which together, remind us of immense love and sacrifice our Saviour made for us, conquering sin and death to offer us the gift of eternal life.

Let this be the time to celebrate but also reflect on the profound significance of Easter in relation to our shared ministry to the poor and the most abandoned and draw inspiration from the Easter story as we continue to serve the people of God with love, dedication and compassion.

Jesus' Resurrection didn't happen in *illo tempore*, it isn't a myth or legend. It is real, that is, it happened in time and space to people of flesh and blood like us who experienced the power of His Resurrection as an earthquake, a real transformative love of God in their lives. That is why they had the audacity to witness and proclaim the Risen Lord's triumph over the power of darkness; the darkness that each and every one of us is called upon to conquer wherever we are assigned to minister.

Amidst the challenges and joys we encounter in our diverse ministries, be it the primary evangelization, typical parish ministry, refugee ministry, education ministry etc. let us stand united in hope and faith, supporting and uplifting one another with the same spirit of brotherhood that Christ exemplified among His disciples.

Let us accept to be emboldened by the certitude of His abiding presence in our live which transforms and strengthens. May the joy of Easter permeate our hearts and guide us in our mission to spread His love and grace to those whom we serve and those we encounter in our daily endeavours.

Wishing you a blessed and Happy Easter.

Florentine Mallya, CSSp.

MEETING OF THE SPIRITAN PARISH PRIESTS



Spiritan parish priests in Tanzania with members of the Provincial council at the Provincialate

*We should be conscious of the fact that as a Congregation, we have moved away from the era of implantation/foundation of local churches to the phase of consolidation and collaboration. Hence, the question that is in our mind should be: **What are we bringing that is unique, as Spiritans, to the local Church when taking up a mission?** And how do we respond adequately to pressing mission situations, such as the new urban poor, migrants, refugees, prisoners and indigenous peoples, situations of injustice, threats to life and the environment? **What is the special approach and commitments we are bringing to the Spiritan mission as we are called to live it today?***

First phase: Spiritan Mission 02 October 2022-02 October 2024

On the 13 March, 2024, 19 Spiritan parish priests out of 25 from Spiritan-run parishes in Tanzania gathered in the provincialate for a one-day meeting with the provincial administration.

Central to the discussions was the recognition of the diverse challenges and ever-evolving landscapes within the Congregation, both demographically, structurally, and financially. With greater responsibilities now bestowed upon the shoulders of the local members of the Congregation, the parish priests and the Provincial administration discussed the need for strategic adaptation and collective action, as highlighted in the recent issue of the Spiritan News.

In his opening remarks, the Provincial superior, Fr Florentine Mallya, welcomed and thanked the parish priests for making the time amidst their busy schedules to join the Provincial administration for this important meeting. He told them that their presence at the meeting was a recognition of the significance the Provincial administration places on each of their ministries and apostolate. The Provincial superior acknowledged the remarkably diverse range of ministerial contexts represented by

the attending parish priests, which he said showcased the richness of our Province as regards the diversity of our ministries. “From serving refugees to engaging in education, healthcare, interreligious dialogue, primary evangelization, and traditional urban parish ministry, our Province stands out for its breadth of apostolic work and ministries” he said. He emphasized the significance attached to each ministry saying that the spectrum of activities undertaken by members of the province in various dioceses reflects our commitment to holistic service and mission.

One of the key focal points of the discussions in this meeting revolved around the branding of the Congregation's charism and the promotion of Spiritan culture within local contexts. The parish priests were prompted to reflect on the initiatives undertaken within their parishes to cultivate a deeper understanding of Spiritan spirituality and mission today. From the establishment of Lay Spiritan Associates to the observance of Pentecost Novenas and the promotion of educational endeavors, all these represent tangible expressions of the Congregation's mission and character.

Integral to the conversation was the importance of fostering collaborative relationships with local bishops and the broader community, as well as the critical need for fundraising to support the formation of our young confreres. Embracing the ethos captured by the Swahili expression, "Watu ni mtaji" (People are assets), the Provincial superior emphasized the value of investing in human resources highlighting the shared responsibility in mentoring our Period of Missionary Experience (PME) students and in nurturing the next generation of Spiritan missionaries through our formation programs.

The meeting marked a significant milestone as it was the first of its kind. The Provincial administration recognized the need for such a gathering at this juncture to provide a common platform for the administration and the Spiritan parish priests to come together and share both the joys and challenges inherent in our diverse ministries. The Provincial superior told the parish priests that in a spirit of fraternity and synodality, the administration called for this meeting so it could engage the parish priests in an open dialogue, not with the intention of covering every aspect of our concerns exhaustively, but rather to address key areas that warrant clarification, discernment and action. By actively listening to each other's experiences and perspectives, it becomes possible to collaboratively chart a sustainable and realistic path forward regarding a whole range of issues concerning our diverse ministries within the local church today and the advancement of our province.

SPIRITAN MONTH 2024

It is our Province's turn within the UCEAF to organize the Spiritan Month for sixteen candidates who will be preparing themselves for the final vows this year. Fr Adolf Msoka has been appointed to accompany them. He will reach out to some of us for specific requests. We are asked to collaborate and support him to make this exercise prayerful and successful.

APPOINTMENT

The Provincial Superior, with the consent of his Council appointed:

- Fr Thaddeus Siya, Moyo Safi parish-Bagamoyo, with effect from 01 April, 2024
- Fr Florian Kavishe, Mang’ola Chini parish, with effect from 01 April, 2024
- Fr Florian Amani (Assistant Bursar), Director of Holy Ghost VTC, Tengeru, with effect from 01 April, 2024
- Fr Peter Mambo, Mgagao Parish, with effect from 1 May, 2024
- Fr Dominic Gathurithu, Libermann Schools, with effect from 1 May, 2024

SAVE THE DATES

Training

The Provincial Development and Planning Office in conjunction with Central Development Office (Rome) will organize a Workshop on Project writing and Project management;
Arrival-22 April (Meeting with the facilitators after supper)

Departure-26 April

Place: Provincialate, Tengeru

N.B. There will be further information communicated about the content of the workshop.

Annual Retreat (Cf. SRL 96 & 96.1):

1st group: 23-29 June

2nd group: 30 June 6 July

3rd group: 4 August 10 August

Remarks about the annual retreat: We are all reminded that faithfulness to the Rule of Life doesn't provide for multiple choice option hence the obligation to conform to what is stipulated. We have enough time to organize our calendars so as to avail ourselves for this important spiritual exercise and ongoing formation. **Please don't organize other private activities which will interfere with these dates.**

NECROLOGY

Cyril	CHUWA	14 April, 2012
Thamelius	MLOKA	25 April, 2005

BEREAVEMENT

We extend our prayerful sympathies to:

Fr. Patience Mugisha-(Mother) Mama Yustina Kaforo Paulo, 23 March 2024

Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon her, may she rest in peace.

BIRTHDAYS

April		
Peter	KWAY	03
Josephat t.	SHIRIMA	04
Felix	JUBU	04
Dickson	DAUD	08
Joseph	FLORIAN	10
Zeno	LELO	12
Thaddeus	SIYA	14
Adam	BAGO	15
Appolinarius	MSAKY	24
Simplis	LAKSHI	27
Gaudence	MUSHI	29

PRAYERS

Fr Nicetas Kyara is back from India. He is in convalescence in Bagamoyo. Let us continue to pray for all our sick confreres, those who care for them and those who support us.

Fraternally,



Florentine Mallya, CSSp.
Provincial Superior

