

## Provincial Desk June 2023 Provincial Desk

### FIRST VOWS 2023



17 June 2023 will be remembered as a particularly important day for the (nineteen) newly professed confreres from Cape Verde, Kenya, Uganda, and Tanzania. Different religious communities were present, as was the judicial vicar of the diocese of Tanga, who represented the bishop elect, the District Commissioner of Lushoto (alumnus of Usa Seminary), and, of course, villagers from Mshelemule, Mabugai, and other surrounding villages.



The newly professed confreres were reminded during the homily that the choice of consecrated life entails radical discipleship. As Spiritan religious missionaries more so than anything else, they were exhorted to cherish and embrace community life despite its inherent challenges. Community life, which isn't an end in itself, offers necessary support for effective ministry. The celebrant exhorted them, saying, "The difficulties you will encounter are intended to fortify you rather than discourage you and lead you away from your call. Don't let anything take away from you the joy you experience today."



### RENEWAL IN THE SPIRIT



Spiritan Rule of Life 96 and 96.1 mandatorily recommends that each confrere participates in the annual retreat as *per* arrangement of the leadership of a particular circumscription. Faithful to this recommendation, the first group for the annual retreat gathered at Retreat and Guest House of the Sisters of Charity of St. Charles Borromeo-Tengeru from 25<sup>th</sup> June, 2023 to 1<sup>st</sup> July, 2023.

Basing the retreat on Isaiah 64: 4 which figuratively portrays God as the Potter and the human person a clay, Fr. Patrick Mwanja, CSSp., the facilitator of the retreat from the Province of Kenya had reminded the retreatants that the moment of retreat is basically the time of renewal. Putting more emphasis on the aspect of renewal, he analogically described the moment of retreat as a period of re-fueling our spiritual tanks. He, therefore, told us that our life can be compared to a mobile machine which requires fuel to function well. We, too, need this moment of renewal so as to be effective in our various ministries.

At the heart of the inputs shared during the retreat was a crucial reminder of our identity as Christ-bearers to the people we serve. In the first place, we were reminded that we are the consecrated men of God for a specific mission in the Church. As such, our primary duty is to manifest God’s love among the people we serve. However, this manifestation of God’s love is only possible if we abide in God through prayer. For prayer immerses us in God’s love.

Furthermore, the retreat facilitator reminded the retreatants that through the act of consecration on the day of our ordination, we were sacramentally configured to Christ. And having been configured to Christ, we were made the dispensers of God’s mysteries. This privilege of being Christ-like should make us humble, effective ministers of God’s Word and instruments of God’s reconciliation. The sacramental resemblance with Christ, therefore, makes us the true meeting point between God and man.

So, in conclusion, the inputs of retreat reminded us of our identity as men called, anointed, consecrated and sent forth for a mission to manifest God’s love among the people we serve. And that through us, people may encounter Christ they are thirsting for.

**Fr Charles M’wali, CSSp.**



### APPOINTMENT AND TRANSFER

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

- Fr Gaudence Mushi as Provincial Secretary for a period of four years beginning on 15 July, 2023. Gaudence graduated from Duquesne University with a Master's degree in multimedia communication. He worked at the Generalate's Rome communication office for a number of years. He is also charged with organizing communication and services for the Province. We rely on his knowledge and abilities to update the Provincial secretariat in order to match the Province's growth.
- Fr Jude Emeka Ekeshiri to Spiritan Refugee Service, Kigoma. With effect from 15 July, 2023.

Transfers:

- Fr Josephat Shirima to Ngorongoro parish with effect from 15 July, 2023.

*We wish them all the best in their new ministries.*

### WELCOME

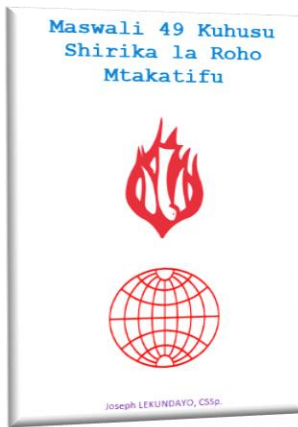


Fr Innocent Abenawe: is a confrere from Uganda appointed to the Province of Tanzania. He served as a missionary in Sierra Leone. He joined Mto wa Mbu community on 10 June, 2023. We wish him all the best among us.



We all rejoice with Fr. Adam Bago, our confrere, who was just elevated to Senior Lecturer at Stella Maris University, Mtwara. Adam, congrats!

**SOON TO BE PUBLISHED**



Fr Joseph Lekundayo is finalizing the publication of his latest book, **Maswali 49 Kuhusu Shirika la Roho Mtakatifu.**

The nouveauté of this book is that for the first time, the history of our Congregation is written in Kiswahili. It is a much awaited book and probably an overdue response to requests made by many people who are associated with our Congregation in East Africa. The use of Kiswahili will bring the epic Spiritan history at the doors of many especially in our schools, parishes, formation communities, institutions and dioceses we work in.

**SAVE THE DATES**

✚ **15 August, 2023, Jubilee Celebration:** Mass 10:00 AM at the Provincialate.

**Juilerians:**

- 25 years of religious life: Evarist Shirima, Joseph Lekundayo, Renatus Karumuna, Dyfrig Maliti, Peter Mallya and Peter Kway
- 60 years of religious life: Joe Herzstein
- 25 years of priesthood: Kastory Kisuda, Amandus Kapele and Casti Mushi

✚ **Annual Retreat**

3<sup>rd</sup> group: 6<sup>th</sup> -12 August

**VACATION**

- ✚ Fr Simplis Lakshi
- ✚ Fr Fulgence Moshi
- ✚ Fr Prosper Gasto
- ✚ Fr Evarist Shirima

*Welcome back home and enjoy your stay with family, relatives and friends.*

**NECROLOGY**

Francis MKETA 18 August 2012

*Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May they rest in peace. Amen.*

**BIRTHDAYS**

AUGUST		
<b>Philip</b>	MASSAWE	01
<b>Respicius</b>	KWEYAMBA	01
<b>Nicodemus</b>	MASSONG	03
<b>Fulgence</b>	MOSHI	04
<b>Zakayo</b>	KIMARO	15
<b>Evarist</b>	SHIRIMA	18
<b>Anno</b>	MASSAWE	18
<b>Arnold</b>	BAIJUKYA	22
<b>January</b>	MKUDE	22
<b>Paul</b>	CHUWA	28

**GRATITUDE**

We thank God and all of us for prayers. Fr Evod is back in Tanzania after months of treatment in Bangalore, India. Fr Nolasco arrives on 5 July along with Scholarstic Edward Simkonda who accompanies him from Chennai, India. He had a very successful operation. We are particulaly grateful for the support we received from the confreres, family and friends.

We continue to pray for Frs Dan Macha and Rogatian Massoy who are undergoing treatment respectively at Muhimbili and KCMC Hospitals.

Fraternally,

Florentine Mallya, CSSp.  
Provincial Superior

