

Provincial Desk **August 2023** Provincial Desk

JUBILEE 2023



Jubilee Mass procession

On 15 August, feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, we had a colorful jubilee celebration at the Provincialate, Tengeru. Our jubilarians were:

- Joe Herzstein-60 years of priesthood
- Frs Gabriel Kitira, Gregory Mallya, Rogasian Masoy and Bishop Augustine Shao-40 years of priesthood
- Frs Kastory Kisuda, Amandus Kapele and Casti Mushi-25 years of priesthood
- Frs Renatus Karumuna, Joseph Lekundayo, Peter Mallya, Peter Kway, Dyfrig Maliti and Evarist Shirima-25 years of religious vows

This year is special as the jubilee celebrations coincided with 320 years since our Congregation was founded, 175 years of the fusion between the Congregation of the Holy Ghost and the Society of the Sacred Heart of Mary and 50 years since the birth of East African Foundation (EAF).

The Provincial Superior, Fr Florentine Mallya, presided over the Eucharist. Fr Philip Massawe, General Assistant on holidays was the homilist. During the homily, Philip made reference to Fr Vincent Stegman's book titled: *Crossing Bridges: an account of cross-cultural experiences by a retired missionary*. "Building a bridge has no meaning if no one uses the bridge," Vincent reminds us in his book. As religious and missionary, we ought to be bridge builders. "A bridge has two aspects

– *building and crossing*. Vincent sees every missionary as a bridge builder or one who provides a bridge for many people to cross over. For example, “*The Maasai nomads of Tanzania and the Borana nomads of Ethiopia who took advantage of the education we provided in the schools we built and operated were given the tools to cross the bridges from their survival mode of living on the dry plains of their countries to life as educated citizens who can now contribute to the welfare of their families and to the benefit of their respective counters.*”

Philip, commended the jubilarians for the faithfulness to their calling. Those who celebrate 25 years of both religious life and priesthood are still at the age of creativity, success, and action. They have sacrificed their life for Christ and for the Kingdom of God. Now that they are at the climax of success in ministry, should avoid pride, arrogance, contempt and concentrate their time on helping those in need.

Those in their 40s and 60s in ministry, have reached adulthood and are close to the sunset of their lives. They should aim at ending their lives in more meaning full way with dignity, sanctity and happiness. Everything they have acquired is the property of the Congregation. They should focus on sharing rather than accumulating material things. “If you don’t do it yourself, other people will do it on your behalf,” he said. He invited us to be generous and happy religious missionaries.

Fr Evarist Shirima, gave a vote of thanks on behalf of the jubilarians. He seized the opportunity, with permission, to organize an ad hoc fundraising for the purpose of renovating a historical building at Usa River (Mother house) where the first superior of EAF resided.

Other activities were scheduled after the Mass were: Fr Joe Herzstein (Babu Joe) was given the honor of blessing a statue of the blessed Virgin Mary (Mother Mary Companion of Missionaries) intended for the grotto at Usa River. Then followed the launching of Fr Joseph Lekundayo’s book: *Maswali 49 Kuhusu Shirika la Roho Mtakatifu* (49 questions about the Congregation of the Holy Ghost). Florentine gave the general introduction about the book, thanked the author and those who made significant contribution in shaping it. Lekundayo spoke briefly explaining what motivated and inspired him to write the book. Fr Gilbert Mardai, SJ., gave a concise critical review of the book. One question he raised was about the title, why “49” and not any other number.

The guest of honor, Honorable (retired) Judge Aisha Charles Nyerere gave a very lively speech. She reminded the audience that Kiswahili language is spoken by more than 100 million people in Africa. By using this language, the author helps Kiswahili speakers, not only to understand the Congregation of the Holy Ghost but also the history of the Catholic church in East Africa. She highlighted the contribution of Spiritans in the emancipation of slaves and the role they played in being the first to begin formal education in our country.

Judge Nyerere applauded Fr Francis Libermann’s missionary vision based on a triangular image: “Faith, health and education.” Spiritans yesterday and today have been missionary pioneers in these areas which constitute their rich legacy in Tanzania and elsewhere in the world.

This book opens the way for more Spiritan publications in Kiswahili. Towards the end of her speech she posed a question: “Personally, I would add a 50th question: “what pushed the Congregation to send missionaries to Zanzibar (1863), Bagamoyo (1868) and to other regions for such a difficult mission in a dangerous environment where a good number of these missionaries died so young”? She was of the opinion the author gives a good background for readers who may pose the same question.

The day was concluded by a shared meal and drinks for all the participants. Thanks be to God who enabled us to live such a great, memorable and colorful day.

Fr Evarist Wasili Shirima, CSSp.

WORKSHOP ON PROVINCIAL CONTROL MANUALS



Participants: management teams of our institutions and the Provincial administration

“The General Council and the circumscriptions will ensure the efficient application of the ethical standards in economic and financial matters. The obligation of control on the part of the circumscription administration and the obligation of accountability on the part of communities and works must be strictly applied. The bursar of the circumscription will present a consolidated report of the circumscription, communities and works. The circumscription council must examine and approve this report. (Bagamoyo 2021, 15. (SRL 246.1.21).”

A workshop was held at Stella Maris Hotel, Bagamoyo, from 22 to 25 August 2023 on control manuals. The purpose of the workshop was to confirm rationale and applicability of control manuals being proposed for the Province in the context of educational services of the Province. In particular, the following were covered with a view to solving those areas through specific operational controls while emphasizing on contemporary trends in the respective areas:

- Tax areas related to financial management, human resource, procurement and governance at educational institutions;

- Human resource management specifics from laws, rules and regulations;
- Procurement measures to ensure value for money, render assurance against frauds, reflect Spiritan spirit and meet general donor and service user requirements;
- Issues around governance of Spiritan educational institutions especially accountability to the Provincial administration, and the formation and functioning of governance organs.

The workshop was not for finance staff only – it was for the entire leadership of our educational institutions. This is to afford a common front in our operations with fair understanding of the controls in place and those being proposed so that our managements can enhance their efficiency, effectiveness and accountability.

Each participant was encouraged to come with notes on problems around the four areas of finance, human resource, procurement and governance. Other areas of interest to the smooth functioning of our institutions were also welcome. There was adequate time for questions, sharing of experiences, group discussion and concrete proposal for future attention by the Provincial administration.

It was the first gathering ever of the management teams of the Holy Ghost Schools in Tanzania and the Provincial Administration. We are particularly grateful to the facilitator, Mr Stephen Shayo.



PHOTO NEWS



Jubilarians renewing the Act of Consecration to the Holy Spirit

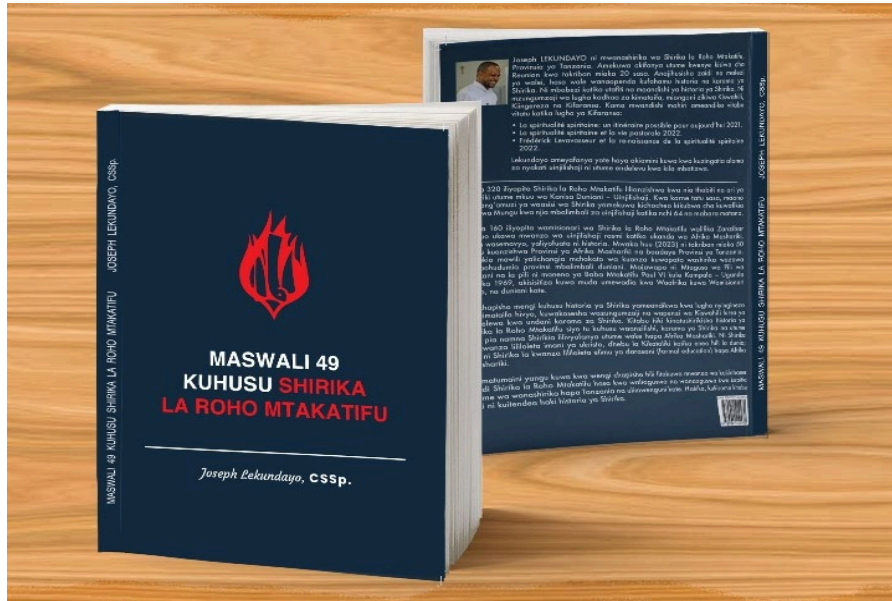


Fr Philip Massawe, homilist, during the jubilee Mass



Attentive to the homily

NOW AVAILABLE



Fr Joseph Lekundayo's book, **Maswali 49 Kuhusu Shirika la Roho Mtakatifu**, was launched on 15 August, 2023, at the Provincincialate by Honorable retired Judge Aisha Charles Nyerere, after the jubilee Mass.

We are all requested to assist in marketing and distributing this publication in our individual institutions and parishes because it's about our history. The publication qualifies as an endeavour that complements the Congregation's Animation Plan 2022-2024 at the level of our Province.

Price: Tsh 10,000/=

Contact: Fr Florian Amani
Tel.: +255 754 886 628

VACATION

- ✚ Fr Gasto Lyimo
- ✚ Fr Honest Munishi
- ✚ Fr Clement Temba

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

BEREAVEMENT

We extend our prayerful sympathies to:

Fr Dyfrig Maliti-(Father) Mzee Joseph Michael Nangela, 22 August, 2023

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

NECROLOGY

Vedastus Msilanga	12 October 2006
Eunan Rite	15 October 2011
Michael Massawe	26 October 2015

BIRTHDAYS

OCTOBER		
Prosper	GASTO	01
Francis	LASWAI	01
Deus	TARIMO	04
Gaspar	MUSHI	05
Calvin	MASSAWE	09
Daniel	KILALA	12
Eric	TEMBA	13
Florentine	MALLYA	16
Lucas	TILISHO	18
Dyfrig	MALITI	19

PRAYERS

We ask for continued prayers and the speedy recovery of all our sick conferes.

Fraternally,



Florentine Mallya, CSSp.
Provincial Superior

