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BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS

THE LWANGA DISTRICT OF AFRICA



Periodical News Clip :: June 2013 Issue

1. NAIROBI, KENYA

1.1. FROM FORMATION OFFICE

Recently we received information about the International Assembly of Young Brothers that will be held in the Philippines in the summer season of 2013. We were invited to pray for the success of this important Assembly. Our District will be represented by Brother Anton Oloo, Kenyan Sector, and Brother Patrick Obam, Nigerian Sector. The last Brothers' Solidarity Assemblies that were held in the various Sectors of our District have given us the opportunity to contribute positively to this significant Assembly that will submit a report to the next General Chapter.



This report will be circulating among the Delegates of the General Chapter in addition to the report of the International Lasallian Mission Assembly: *one Family, one Mission* that was held recently at the Casa Generalizia in Rome and the one of the Brother Superior General and his Council. During the Brothers' Solidarity Assembly that will be held in Kenya at the beginning of December 2013, Bro Anton Oloo will share with the participants his experiences, insights, hopes and concerns. Bro Patrick Obam will do likewise at the Brothers' Solidarity Assembly that will be held in Nigeria at the end of February 2014. Both of

them will have the opportunity to organize and animate two days of our three-day Assemblies. In advance we are very grateful to them to enrich us by their fraternal sharing.

Brother Marc had the joy and privilege to animate a one-week workshop on the sacramental life of a Christian at the Novitiate. The participation of the 11 Nigerian, Ethiopian and Kenyan novices was encouraging, inspiring and pleasant.



We were glad to welcome Brother Malak, an Egyptian Brother, to the Scholasticate for his English studies. Once again our Brother Scholastics were able to integrate well this young Brother into their Community and Fraternities as they have already done with

the young Brothers coming from Burkina Faso, Rwanda and Madagascar. Bravo! In this way they continue giving witness to the universal Brother- and Sisterhood that is experienced in God's Reign.

1.2. THE NAIROBI NOVITIATE

Founder's Day Celebration at the Nairobi Novitiate

After the football match held on the 12th May between the Novices and the Scholastics commemorating St. La Salle Day, the Novitiate Community organized Mass and dinner in honour of our founder, St. John Baptist De La Salle on the 15th of May. The Founder's mass was celebrated by Fr. John Ghansah, SJ the Rector of Hekima College. One of the Brothers' students from Victory Park-South Africa, Fr. Peter Knox, SJ delivered the homily at the Mass. In his sermon Fr. Knox acknowledged the enormous contribution the Brothers are offering in the world of Christian Education,

as they bear the charism of St. John Baptist De La Salle. He urged them to be courageous and promote the Institute of the Brothers in the world of today; and to emulate the virtues of perseverance De La Salle demonstrated in his time.



He sincerely thanked the Brothers for playing an important role in his faith life. Guests at the Mass included Brothers from the three communities in Nairobi-the Provincialate, CTC and the Scholasticate. Religious men and women, including lay faithful who are friends of the Brothers were present to grace the occasion.



Dinner in honour of St. John Baptist De La Salle followed immediately after the Mass. And it is worth mentioning that the menu was enriching and tastefully presented. Brother Jerome Cox, a long serving missionary in the District led in the cutting of a fanciful, decorated creamed cake baked in honour of the founder. The cake cutting ceremony was facilitated by Brother Michael Kimotho and assisted by a Holy Rosary Sister.

2. NEWS FROM THE SECTORS

2.1. SECTOR OF ERITREA

Death announcement

We regret to announce the death of Mrs. Asmaite Yoseph, the sister of Brother Kiflezghi Yoseph. The late Asmaite was 87 years old and was suffering from poor health for the last 5 years. But it was only in the last five months that her situation became very serious and eventually promoted to eternal glory. She is blessed with 6 children and 19 grandchildren. May she rest in peace!

Decades of outstanding and exceptional service is recognized

The Sector of Eritrea in special way recognized the life time service of Brothers Amilcare and Pedro in the Sector. The history of the Sector of Eritrea is inseparable from the life and service of Br. Amilcare and Pedro. In recognition of this, the Sector awarded a **‘Certificate of Recognition and**

Appreciation’ together with a symbolic silver emblem that summarizes their contribution to the Sector.

Bro. Amilcare is particularly remembered for his remarkable leadership in the then Delegation of Ethiopia and Eritrea and the foundation of the Institute of Religious Studies (IRS).

On the other hand, Brother Pedro is remembered for helping the construction and upkeep of Schools, Kindergartens, Health Centers, Clinics and water supply projects in the rural areas. He also remembered for the foundation of ‘Maadi Solidarity’, which subsidizes schools and clinics in the whole of the country.

Bro. Pedro and Amilcare put hands together and worked passionately to

- ✓ Renovate, upgrade and equip St. Joseph’s School – Keren
- ✓ Founding and upkeep of Hagaz Agro-technical School (HATS) –

Hagaz

- ✓ Renovating and expanding of Nativity Shinara School.
- ✓ Training of farmers in rural areas and the realization of many other small and big projects

But we mainly recall the life they shared with us, their solidarity with the Brothers and their simple and modest life style. We are exceptionally indebted to these Brothers and their legacy remains as a living witness of our mission and it serves us, as a source of inspiration.

2.2. SECTOR OF KENYA

RONGAI COMMUNITY

At the beginning of this term, we received Bro. Brendan Foley, Bro. Victor Wesonga and Bro. Bonface Wachira into our Community. Bro. Brendan is teaching Chemistry to Form One and in charge of Basketball. Bro. Victor is on his immersion programme and is teaching Geography and History. Bro. Bonface is teaching History. Karibuni Rongai Brothers.

Wildlife club members participated in an essay writing competition. In the competition, Moses Kingori and Stephen Wahome emerged winners and they received gift Vouchers worth S15000 and 7000 respectively. Moses Kingori was also awarded at the National Level and the School was awarded for participating in the event and attaining position two out of many others.

In the Science Congress, 8 items were presented at the District level held at Moi High School Kabarak and four projects out of the eight projects presented, proceeded to the County level competitions held at Menengai High School Nakuru. All the four projects won at the County level and proceeded to the Regional Competitions. Out of the four projects presented one managed to win and qualified for presentation at the National Science congress held at Kisii boys High school in Kisii County. The project presentedd was an Agricultural exhibit presented by Dennis Kamau and Peter Ng'ang'a. They attained position five out of 24 entries. Congratulations for making Rongai Boys proud.

The school also participated in the Nakuru County music festivals held at Utumishi academy in Gilgil, Nakuru County. It was the first time that the school participated in the music competitions. In the several

categories they participated in, one of the songs attained position three and proceeded to the Regional level. Congratulations to our School Choir for making it this far this being the first time. We hope you will proceed further next year!

In the Rongai District ball games competitions held at Moi High School Kabarak, our volleyball and football teams were eliminated in the quarter finals of the tournament. None of the teams proceeded to the next level but hope they will do better next year. Congratulations to all those who represented the School in these competitions.

CTIE 17TH GRADUATION 2013

On 27th April 2013, Christ the Teacher Institute for Education (CTIE) held their 17th Graduation at Tangaza University College.

The ceremony opened with the Eucharistic celebration at nine o'clock. The main

celebrant was Monsignor Dr. Pius Rutechura, Vice Chancellor of The Catholic University of Eastern Africa (CUEA). During the Mass, we thanked the Lord for the academic achievements of both students and lecturers and for granting us the day.

The Graduation Ceremony started at eleven o'clock. The Chief Guest of the ceremony was Prof. Donna Aronson, PhD, Vice President of Saint Mary's University of Minnesota.

Among the graduates were three De La Salle Brothers from the Scholasticate community. Brother Stephen Inja and Brother Victor Wasonga were Diploma in Education graduates while Brother Boniface Wachira was a Bachelor of Education Degree graduate. The Scholasticate Community celebrated the success of the three Brothers with a delicious meal to mark the day. Brothers and all the invited guests joined the graduates in celebrating the good fruits of their hard work.



Graduates during the procession



Brother Boniface (BEd Degree graduate)



From left to right: Br. Victor and Br. Stephen
(Dip Ed graduates).

BACK TO THE SCHOLASTICATE COMMUNITY

The first week of May was a week of blessings. Indeed, after three Scholastics had gone to their respective communities either for immersion programme or for full time apostolate, eyes were looking forward to seeing new comers.

It did not take long to happen. Three Brothers, who were from their immersion programme became members of the Community: Br. Jastin, Br. Morara and Br. Geoffrey G. are now back to the Scholasticate Community.

Welcome dear Brothers and may you have a peaceful and fruitful stay as you prepare to graduate with a Bachelor of Education Degree. Karibu Brothers!!!

2.3. SECTOR OF SOUTH AFRICA

NEWSCLIPS - LA SALLE, DISCOVERY -
JUNE 2013.

Greetings from Jo'burg where we are experiencing the on-come of winter, with rather cold mornings and evenings.

Also, as I write, the country is on edge as we tune into the regular medical bulletins on the medical condition of Nelson Mandela.

May the Lord reward him for a life dedicated to peace, justice and human rights for which he paid a heavy price.

As I write the school is on holiday until 16 July. Just before we closed our Principal, Jill Milne, underwent a hip operation but is due to resume work when classes resume.

We extend our deepest sympathy to our Brothers in Nigeria on the death of their distinguished confrere, Br. Ansel Uba. We pray that he may enjoy the reward of the "good and faithful servant" and that the

good Lord will console his family and loved ones in their grief. R.I.P.

GENERAL:

- Mrs. Leanne Stonier from Victory Park attended the International Assembly for the Educational Mission in Rome from the 6-17 May. She reports that it was an inspiring and awesome experience for her and she will be reporting back to the staffs of our two schools in the near future.
- In May, our Principal issued a detailed questionnaire to all parents requesting their opinions about the quality of education and management policies in place in La Salle College and how they generally rated La Salle College. On the 7 May the parents were invited to a meeting to get a feedback on the questionnaire. There was a very

good attendance and the reaction of parents was very positive.

- On the 8 May a Farewell Liturgy and social was held for Br. Timothy McLaughlin at La Salle. He was thanked for his long and dedicated ministry in our Sector.
- Br. Thomas preached the homily at the Founder's Day Mass in both schools.
- We joined the Tsholofelo Community for the celebration of Br. Joseph's birthday. A community Mass was celebrated by Bishop Kevin Dowling.
- Br. Thomas accompanied the Gr XI students to the Gr. XI Mass for Catholic Schools of the Archdiocese in the Cathedral. There are 56 Catholic Schools in the Archdiocese. To cater for the crowds Masses were held on two different days.

- We were happy to welcome Br. Marc Hofer for a week's visit during which we discussed the Vocation/Formation situation in South Africa. We still live in hope that we will soon have Postulants in Victory Park. We celebrated Marc' birthday during his visit. Ad multos Annos.
- On the 26 May, Trinity Sunday, both communities joined at La Salle for a liturgical celebration culminating in the Renewal of Vows.
- On the 30 May the Executive Committee of Lasallian Association met in Victory Park. A retreat for teachers from both schools is planned for the 14 September. We will have two representatives at the Association Workshop in Nairobi in July.

- Our Lasallian Youth group continues with its weekly meetings and Outreach Projects for youth in disadvantaged communities.

To students in our schools doing their Senior Certificate exams in June, we wish every success. May they achieve the results they hope for.

The poor quality of education in many Government schools in South Africa is a matter of great concern. A recent report states e.g.

3,500 schools have no electricity; 401 schools lack water supply; 900 + schools don't have ablution facilities; pit latrines are used by 11,500 schools; only 8% have stocked libraries; 10% have stocked computer centers.

Finally, South Africa is ranked third in world obesity rankings!!! Tighten your belts.

**DEADLINE FOR NEXT NEWSCLIP
ISSUE**

The deadline will be on 20th of August 2013