



SVD NEWSLETTER



A WORD FROM THE PROVINCIAL

Dear Confreres,

I am writing these words from a dusty, harmattan infected Accra.

We have begun a New Year. With the very first month of the year we celebrate the big feasts of our founder and our first missionary saint to China, Joseph Freinademetz.

I am sure by now you have celebrated our founder's feast in various ways in the various parishes and communities. I, for one, joined Clementina Parish, Ashaiman, on the invitation of Andrew Anumu Quaye-Foli for the celebration of our founder's feast. On that day they ended with the Enthronement of the Bible to end Bible Week. I presided over this nice celebration. This also marked the beginning of the Year of the Bible 2011 for Clementina Parish.

I would also like to express a word of gratitude to Fr. Jolly Mudakkampurath who is leaving the province for good because of medical reasons. He has been here for seventeen years. He has done a lot in the Biblical Apostolate, among many other ministries.

The provincial election process is in progress. We are in the process of sending the first round votes to the Generalate. We hope the second round will start in time. The schedule will be sent to you as soon as the new Provincial is announced.

Fr. Jozef Mazur has been appointed as the Director of the Tuba Centre and a committee has been formed. It consists of: John Straathof, Konrad Dreyer, Stephen Domelevo, Andrews Obeng as well as Jozef Mazur. The Provincial is also an ex-officio member of the committee. Fr. Jozef is now staying at McCarthy Hill. He has started to build a "boys quarters" at Tuba and he will be the first "boy" to stay in them.

I hope to see most of you at one of the Family Feast Celebrations.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Thomas D' Mello'.

Your Confrere,
Fr. Thomas D' Mello , SVD

DISTRICT NEWS

Accra District:

Excerpt from Fr. Martin Wels note from Germany

“I left Ghana for the rest of my life. At the moment I am in Sankt Augustine, our central House in Germany. I thank God the source all life and mother Mary for another year. I am now 89 years running to 90. As I get older my strength is going down. I hope in Sankt Augustine, I shall have quiet time... more different in Abeka and Ashaiman... With your help I was able to work in Ghana for 57 years. God bless you all!

Martin Wels, SVD

FORMATION

Tesano

Vocation Director organizes a 5-day Aspirant Workshop

The Vocation Director, Rev. Bro. McDaniel Acquah, SVD organized an Aspirant Workshop for 5 days in St. Augustine Parish, Ashaiman from 4th to 9th January 2011.

The workshop was attended by aspirants from all over the country. In their sharing some noted that they got inspiration to be aspirants of the SVD religious congregation through their friends and teachers. But most of them got their inspiration from their parish priests.

Our appreciation goes to Bro. McDaniel. May his sacrificial effort be rewarded with many vocations in the Society of the Divine Word.

Nkwatia

Novitiate

Self-Reliance in the Novitiate

Novitiate Farm: Our second farming season of the year has yielded an appreciable quantity of maize which we have already harvested. We thank God for the rains and the good weather. We have also harvested our yams and the produce is quite encouraging. We have also harvested a good quantity of cassava and plantain which we shared gladly with our confreres in Accra and Divine Word Conference Center at Nsawam, as well as SSpS Sisters in Nkawkaw, Accra and Sunyani, and with some other friends of the Novitiate.

This year we planted some local and exotic cocoa trees and some coconuts in the novitiate compound to keep the area fresh and green.

Animal husbandry: Our rabbits are increasing tremendously. Currently we have eighteen (18) rabbits comprising 9 males, three females and six growing ones. They really enjoy the freedom of the open “backyard garden” and “they eat all you can.” The sheep and goats are increasing in numbers. We also have our local poultry and have started recently with rearing of guinea fowls. A crab rearing trial is also underway with some 8 crabs.

SVD Novitiate, Nkwatia

Tamale

Demetz formation House

Pastoral experience during Christmas vacation a success

The pastoral experience of the Postulants: Stephen Appiah, Francis Bakilatob, Wisdom Agbovi, Frank Quainoo, Samuel Aboo, Stephen Nyantey, Philip Tekperthey Abaya, Daniel Nuerthey Teye, Godwin Gatefe Valentine Kwami, Theodore Atsu Afanyedey, Gideon Awudi and Stephen Osei Asante came out successfully. Those who were sent to the city parishes were united in their sentiments that urban apostolate is drawing attraction because of youth migration to the cities. Nonetheless those assigned to the rural areas also found fulfillment in their apostolate. They were amazed by the hospitality and generosity of the simple people in the villages. These experiences added down to earth learning for them to integrate into their academic endeavours.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES

Departures:

Fr. Alex PC: 23rd December 2010 to India for a well deserved home-leave. *Fr. Alex, have a restful holidays with your family at Christmas and New Year!*

Fr. Wilfred D' Souza: 28th December 2010 to India for home-leave and short studies. *Fr. Wilfred, All the best!*

Fr. Jolly: 27th January 2011 back to India for good. *Fr. Jolly, thank you for all your service as you took the Biblical Pastoral Ministry (BPM) in Ghana Province. May the Divine Word be with you where ever you go and in whatever you do.*

Fr. Matthias Felber: 1st February 2011 to Austria for a well deserved Holidays. *Fr. Matthias, Alles Raisse!*

Fr. Joseph Panabang: 25th February 2011 to Philippines for a long awaited home-leave. *Fr. Joe, n aragsak na Paskua!*

WHERE CREDIT IS DUE

1. **Rev. Fr. Alex Awuah,**
Teacher's award in

Fr. Alex

2. **Rev. Jolly**
Thanks for your
the Ghana SVD Province.
rest be assured that we
missionary endeavours.



**SVD receives Best
Kwahu-Tafo Parish**

Congratulations !

Mudakkampurath.
enormous contribution to
As you go for a good
are one with you in your

COMING EVENTS

15 th January 2011	Founder's Feastday
27 th – 28 th January 2011	Southern Family Feast.
February 211	Parents and Guardians' Visit to the Novitiate – Nkwatia
1 st February 2011	Start of the second Novitiate.
18 th – 19 th March	Lenten Recollection.

REMEMBERING OUR DEAD

Capt. (Rtd.) Philip Agbeyome, the elder brother of Fr. Paul Agbeyome SVD, died on 15th January 2011 at the 37th Military Hospital. He was 76 years old when he died. Funeral and burial arrangement will be announced later.

May his soul rest in peace

REMEMBERING OUR SICK

Dear Confreres,

This is to inform you that Brother James Djadoo is in Akwatia hospital and is seriously ill. You are asked to pray for him in your personal and community prayers. If you would like more information about him please contact his Praeses, Fr. Anthony Dugay, or the Provincial.

Please pass this information on to your confreres who do not have email.

Yours in the Divine Word,

Fred Timp, SVD
Province Secretary

WISE SAYINGS FROM THE FOUNDING GENERATION

“May the spirit of darkness be overcome and the kingdom of light and truth spread everywhere.” - St. Arnold Janssen

“With this brother Joseph, the die is cast: pray, work, suffer, endure. Your whole life for your beloved Chinese, then when you come to the evening of our life and lie on your deathbed, you can sleep surrounded by your dear Chinese. Adieu! Farewell forever dear homeland beyond the sea.” - St Joseph Freinademetz

“The specific advantage of holy solitude lies in the fact that the heart receives so many and extraordinary graces, which in the noise of our lives remain unrecognized or do not gain entry to our hearts.” - Blessed Maria Helena Stollenwerk

“I wish for just a humble place (to be one of the maids in Steyl) of honour.”- Blessed Josefa, Hendrina Stenmanns

JOKES ONLY

Don't forget your Pastor

A pastor went on street preaching on the road from La Paz to Nii Boi town - Accra on Christmas day wished the street goers: *"I am wishing you a blessed Christmas! Have a memorable family re-union; enjoy your grand exchange of gifts and be grateful to God for Christmas. But as you enjoy the day please don't forget your pastor!"*

Climb down

Psychiatrist: *"Now, now, Mr. Kofi, you've to stop believing that you are a fly."*

Mr. Kofi: *"How do I do that?"*

Psychiatrist: *"The first thing you should do is to climb down from the ceiling"*

What bait are you using?

The sad-looking man had been waiting a long time for his order. Finally his waiter approached and said: *"Your fish will be coming in a minute or two now, sir."*

The sad-looking man looked interested: *"Tell me"* he said, *"What bait are you using?"*

WORTH REMEMBERING

January

1	Vincent Boi - Nai	Birthday	15	Ronald Lange	F&Bday
1	Johannes Lengari	Birthday	16	Marcelo Oyarzún	Feastday
1	Mieczyslaw Sagan	Feastday	17	Anthony Anala	Feastday
1	Dzibitor Abraham W.K.	Feastday	17	Victor Gbotso	Birthday
2	Andrinjatovo Diderick	Feastday	19	Mariusz Pacula	Feastday
3	Vinsensius Wangge	Birthday	20	Sebastian Sperl	Feastday
3	Thaddeus Nyanuba	Birthday	20	Fabian Mate	Feastday
5	Jacobson Dey	Birthday	20	Sob Sabastine	Feastday
6	Francis Dolagbenu	Birthday	24	Francis Dolagbenu	Feastday
7	Akumbilim Raymond	F&Bday	24	Edward Tetteh	Birthday
7	Peter Claver Narh	Birthday	25	Paul Ayitey	Feastday
11	Martin Dumas	Birthday	26	Stephen Domelevo	Birthday
11	Frederick Timp	Birthday	26	James O. Amankwah	Birthday
13	Victor Gbortsu	Birthday	26	Stanislaw Gergont	Birthday
14	Anthony Anala	Birthday	31	John K. Tumawu	Feastday
15	Vincent Agbeyome - Akpa	Birthday	31	Johannes Lengari	Feastday

Jan	Our departed confreres	Year
2	Dennis Asiamah	2008
12	Josef Jud	1985
16	Harold Rigney	1980
23	Lawrence Thornton	2003

February

1	Joseph Addai	Birthday	19	Andrew Quaye-fofi	Birthday
4	Gerard Tanye	Birthday	23	Joseph Panabang	Birthday
8	Emil Setsoafia	Feastday	24	Mathias Yaadar	Birthday
9	Tomy Kanjiramalayil	Birthday	24	Martin Ninang	Birthday
10	Deepak Tigga	Birthday	24	Matthias Felber	Feastday
11	Oswald Bangfo	Birthday	26	Alex Awuah - Osei	Feastday
12	Rafael Mesi	Birthday	28	Oswald Bangfo	Feastday
15	Boguslaw Berek	Birthday	29	Matthias Helms	Birthday
16	Dionisius Kopong Ola	Birthday			

Feb	Our departed confreres	Year
10	Josef Glatzel	2000
13	Charles Roesslein	1999
20	Justinus Toda	2010
22	Titus Grawey	1986
22	Leslie Hatfield	1987
24	David Schouten	1993

Liturgy Corner

Ordinary time in the year

Ordinary time in the year is a period to work in the field of our own soul. As far as the salvation of humanity at large is concerned, the ordinary time in the year recalls to our mind the long period of time that started on Pentecost Day and is still going on; it will end at the end of the world.

Down the centuries, Jesus goes on saving every person who accepts the salvation which he generously offers to everyone. On the last day, at “Jesus” second coming” as it has been called, he will come to judge everyone; those who accepted his salvation and those who rejected it. As far as individual salvation is concerned, the Ordinary Time of the Year stands for the time that began on the day of our baptism and will end at our death, when our individual salvation will be completed.

Taking the cultivation of the field as a comparison, The Ordinary Time of the Year of Worship corresponds to the period that extends from the moment the seed sprouts to harvest time. During this period, there is work that belongs to God: to send the rain and sunshine, to make plants grow and yield fruit. And there is work that is left to us, to weed the field and to defend the harvest from animals and thieves.

In the cultivation of our fields, at times, for reason known only to God, rain fails, and no matter how much effort we put in, the harvest is ruined. There is no danger, as far as God is concerned, that this will happen to the harvest of our own life: God never fails to put whatever is needed for the seed within us to yield a plentiful harvest; only our own negligence can ruin it, and we must see to it that this does not happen.

*Commentaries on the Sunday Readings
Pastoral Center Shillong – Meghalaya, India*

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me



**to bring glad tidings to the poor...Proclaim liberty
to the captives... "
(Lk. 4:18-19)**