


MAY 1997

Eastern Africa Province

Sun	4	<i>Bl. Joseph Rubio - Optional</i> +George Aikara
Mon	5	Festo L. Mkenda, Pius Mwaura
Thu	8	Atakelt Tesfay
Wed	14	Georges Kimonge
Fri	16	St. Andrew Bobola - Memorial, Berhanu Tamene
Mon	19	<i>Jos Van de Loo</i> †1993
Tue	20	George Ukken
Wed	21	*Timothy Baghrmwin
Fri	23	Nicholas M. Bunyige
Sat	24	<i>Our Lady of the Wayside - Optional</i> Eric Condillac, Joseph Rodrigues
Sun	25	Isaac Kiyaka
Mon	26	Vincent Soreng
Wed	28	*Wilson Randriamanantena
Fri	30	*Jean Pierre Rakotomanana, <i>Emile Cambron</i> †1978
Sat	31	Binamungu Mukasa

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# Easternet

Newsletter of Jesuits of Eastern Africa  
P.O. Box 21399  
Nairobi Kenya



VOL. 12, NO. 3,

April 1997



Deacon Paschal Mwijage, Fr. Provincial, Deacon Bonaventura Balige and Fr. Socius, soon after being ordained deacons at our Lady of Guadalupe Parish by His Grace Archbishop Raphael S. Ndingi Mwan'a Nzeki, Co-Adjutor Archbishop of Nairobi Kenya.

*"They presented these men to the apostles, who first prayed over them and then imposed hands on them."*

## FROM THE PROVINCIAL'S DESK

### *New Head for U.S. Jesuit conference:*

Fr. Peter-Hans Kolvenbach has appointed Fr. Bradley M. Schaeffer, current Provincial of the Chicago Province, to become the next President of the U.S. Jesuit Conference. Fr. Schaeffer will take office on February 1st, 1998. Fr. Bill Barry, Provincial of the New England Province, is currently serving as Acting President. Fr. Jim Lafontaine, current New England Provincial Assistant for Formation and Secondary Education, will replace Fr. Dan McDonald as Executive Secretary. Fr. Lafontaine will take over in November 1997.

### *New Post Box number for Jesuits in Sudan:*

Jesuit Community,  
P. O. Box 1629,  
Khartoum North, Sudan

### *Left the Society:*

Scholastic FRANCIS KITOPE left the Society on 2nd April 1997.

### *Fr. Provincial's schedule for April:*

- 01 : Ordination of Deacons at Hekima College.  
02-06: Visitation of ISAAC KIYAKA and friends in Belgium.  
06-14: JESAM meeting and visitation

of DAMAS MISSANGA in Rome.

- 14-16: Visitation of GROUM TES FAYE in Dublin.  
17-21: Visitation of AQUILINE TARIMO in Berkeley, Ca., U.S.A.  
21-23: Visitation of GABRIEL MMASSI and meeting with benefactors in Washington, D.C., U.S.A.  
23-27: Visitation of AMEDEUS SHIRIMA and signing of Twinning Agreement with Wisconsin Province.  
27-30: Signing of Twinning Agreement with Detroit Province in Detroit.

### *Father Socius:*

- 12-19: Tentative visit of Ngara.

### *Vocation Promoter:*

- 07-13: Retreat and Workshop for Jesuit candidates and aspirants at Ngong Pastoral Centre.  
21-27: Visit of Eldoret - Kitale - Bungoma.

ODOMARO (who has discarded his crutches, replacing them with a walking stick meant for wise men) and KYALO have been accepted for the graduate programme in Philosophy at the University of Zimbabwe, beginning on March 17. Félicitations, mes Frères, et bonne chance! (Our congratulations, Brothers, and may we wish you well).

And what's more ! MARDAI, with a French accent, managed to lead the College in dancing "Mwana wa Mberi" and "Ngima Lomba" to celebrate the final incorporation of Fr. Stephen Buckland, S.J. into the Society. You should

have seen ARUNDA outdo KYALO in flexibility during the dance!

NGABIRANO has been away for his social work field-attachment while ATAKELT and ENDASHAW now also attend evening literature classes at Specis College, downtown.

"Un peu plus à la prochaine! (A little more next time!)

*Jacob Okumu,  
S.J.*

### ♥ YOUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED

- for Mr. Robert Kayemzi, brother-in-law of Schol. SAMUEL F. MAGHALI, who died on February 6, 1997, leaving his wife and one child.
- for the mother of Schol. WILSON RANDRIAMANANTENA, third year student at Hekima College, who died just a few days before her son's ordination to the diaconate.
- for Lino, Sudanese seminarian from the Torit Diocese and former student at Hekima College, who recently died of cancer.
- for the father of Novice ANTHONY KILULU, who died recently.
- for the grandfather of JACOB OKUMU, who has long been missing and who is now presumed dead.
- for Paul Mituwani Msele. "Baba Mdogo" (uncle) of Fr. STEPHEN MSELE, who died on March 27th, 1997.

HCR and then broadcasted by Radio Kwizera. The rest of the broadcasting time was filled with programmes on health, environment, education, programmes for children and women, religious programmes and music. This meant that until the Rwandese refugees left in December 1996, we only had thirty minutes per week on repatriation, out of 40 hours of transmission.

With 95,000 Burundese refugees remaining in the two camps in Ngara, JRS still feels that Radio Kwizera can be of great use to the refugees. So, even though JRS is not included among the four remaining NGOs, we can still work, as we are self-funded. However, since UNHCR had purchased some of the radio equipment, they've been putting us under pressure to hand things back. Among the equipment is the big transmitter, five times stronger than the one we own. In fact, with the big transmitter we can reach over 200,000 refugees in Kigoma. In late March negotiations between JRS and UNHCR were still going on so that JRS may be loaned the equipment belonging to UNHCR and consequently be allowed to work in the camps under agreeable terms.

Apart from all these problems life has been going on well. Fr. PACO ORNELAS, who joined the Ngara JRS team early in February, has been fully involved in pastoral work in the camps. ELIAS LOPEZ PEREZ is being ordained Deacon on 13th April at Lukole

Refugee Camp by Bishop Severin Niwemugizi, who will be performing this ceremony for the first time since he was made Bishop in February this year.

*Elias Omondi,  
S.J.*

### NEWS FROM HARARE

The second and third week of March at Arrupe College were reminiscent of the "deliberatio primorum patrum" (the deliberations of our First Fathers). The General Assistant for the Formation of Ours, Fr. José Morales, S.J., joined the Anglophone Provincials and Regional Superiors of Anglophone Africa and Arrupe College for the evaluation of our manner of proceeding in the College. For us it was a sign of a greater hope for the future of the Society in Africa.

Fr. Provincial RODRIGO MEJIA in his visitation first met each of us, and later as a group gave us an overview of where we are as a Province, punctuating his "hekima na busara" with a high sense of humour.

Meanwhile MWAURA, OTIENO and MARDAI are just back from Abidjan - and from the way they "dribble French", their time in Côte-d'Ivoire was well spent. The trio, together with

### FATHER GENERAL SPEAKS ON COMMUNITY LIFE

*(From the speech of Fr. General to the Superiors of France at Chantilly, November 30, 1996)*

The absence of a specific decree does not mean that the General Congregation ignored community life. In its reflections on the state of the Society, the General Congregation was quite mindful of the on-going miracle that is a community - that union of persons who did not choose one another for a life together. It was also aware of the increasing individualism, of the ever-decreasing apostolic mobility, and of the growing need for the recognition of one's own cultural differences and one's particular sensibilities - factors which can easily impoverish the apostolic dynamism of the community in the apostolic body of the Society and favour a tendency toward a comfortably ensconced common life.

The General Congregation was, moreover, well aware of the Church's desire to encourage and support community life as an eloquent sign of union in Christ in a divided world, and of the ever-growing need for a community life which is more explicit and more intense.

With this awareness, the General Congregation concluded that a new document was not necessary. The

General Congregation recognized that the implementation of its work is ultimately the task of the local community. It is only here that its work is best evaluated, and plans of action developed to assure that each Jesuit community continues to live and grow as an apostolic body of "friends in the Lord".

From meetings of superiors, from encounters of formators or of Jesuits involved in the same apostolic area, we have studied the experience of common life in a large house or in a small community, our work in an institution proper to the Society or in an apostolate for which we do not have responsibility. Hence emerges the idea to live only for the requirements of an apostolic mission. Here there are so many possibilities of being integrated into the apostolic body of the Society. This means that we are not to make forming a local community the sole criterion of our Ignatian vocation to form a body. The local community cannot be an end in itself, for all who live there belong to the entire body of the Society and remain available for it. In this sense (but this is not a major point) we ought to reexamine our terminology, even if it is canonically correct. St. Francis Xavier was not a "legitimately absent" member of his local community.

For the requirements of mission, St. Ignatius did not hesitate to place some tensions in our lives as Jesuits. According to the Constitutions, he wants us to live in the houses and in colleges - he did not know our expression "community" - but to live "outside the house" one needed union with the body, with the entire, universal, whole, and collective body.

The perspective of mission led St. Ignatius, then, to assume a tension between a life in common and work together. The work requires inculturation, and in particular, the study of languages, and at the same time an availability for and attention to the universal, a concern for all the churches and for the entire world, all of which hinders a local community from becoming

**A LENTEN READING OF FR. GENERAL'S RESPONSE TO THE ANNUAL LETTERS OF 1996 ON GC34**

*(Text prepared by Fr. Parmananda Divarkar, S.J., of the Bombay Province)*

[Lent means springtime, a season for renewal. The points in Fr. General's Circular of 8.xi.96 provide plenty of challenging material for reflection and resolution as we open ourselves to the grace of conversion, so that we may launch with fresh vigour on the mission entrusted to us by the Risen Lord. What is presented below follows the line traced by Fr. General but is not intended as a summary of his text. - Parmananda, S.J.]

a monastery, a convent, or a permanent habitat.

The community is neither a monastery nor a convent, even if St. Ignatius preserved so many monastic and cenobitic values to the extent that they contributed to living the mission fully.

The mission! Here is the motivation and orientation of our specific Jesuitness. The 32nd General Congregation defined the Jesuit community as a community in dispersion, which is to say, a community formed by men ready to go anywhere where they are sent. The Congregation added, however, that it was also a "koinonia", a putting together of goods and life centered on the Eucharist (27-8). The spirit of this formulation is Ignatian.

1. Thanks to the praiseworthy efforts made in the provinces to get across the message of GC34, Jesuits have understood and appreciated that the Congregation's great achievement was the updating of our Constitutions by the addition of new Norms, so that presented together in one book they can effectively inspire and direct our life and activity towards the New Evangelization to which we are called on the eve of the Third Millennium. The production of this book has cost an enormous amount of quiet but very hard work, and now the effects must by all means appear,

Right from the beginning of this year LADO has been running up and down, preparing his Form IV and VI students in the five schools he has been teaching for their final exams in Religion. LADO has also been busy preparing the parish youth for their feast day on Palm Sunday. On this day the youth put on a fantastic display before the Mass, and later on some plays at the Youth Centre, to mark the occasion. Bishop Mathias Isuja of Dodoma was the guest of honour.

From March 20 to 24, RICHARD D'SOUZA from Khartoum was with us, to collect his baggage which he had left behind. IKUNZA, from the time of his arrival in the community on March 10, has been introduced into the community's different apostolates in different schools, the Business College, the parish youth and the library at the Youth Centre.

KIZZA daily rides to Don Bosco Technical Institute to take his second year courses in carpentry. He tells us that his lessons are being inconvenienced by the recent rationing of electricity supply.

During Holy Week GASPAR and MADRA embarked on the spiritual preparation of the parish by giving the parish's small Christian communities and the religious houses periods of recollection as well as the sacrament of reconciliation.

This year, in most of Tanzania in general, and Dodoma in particular, we have been experiencing the severest drought ever in 40 years. There is a severe famine looming at close range. The parish continues to support with water our desperately thirsty neighbours who hardly see a drop of water in their pipes. Please keep praying that the rains will come soon.

*Andrew Madra,  
S.J.*

**NGARA, TANZANIA**

JRS Ngara has been under a sickening suspense for the last three months. The return of about 400,000 Rwandan refugees to their country has meant the reduction of the workload for many NGOs. In fact, the camps having been reduced in number from eight to only two, UNHCR Authorities wanted only four NGOs to keep working in the camps, out of about twenty that had been there. JRS was not included among those four NGOs for the simple reason that, according to UNHCR, the main goal of JRS in maintaining Radio Kwizera was to lead a mass information campaign for the return of the Rwandese. In fact, Radio Kwizera did much more than just provide mass information for the campaign. The repatriation programme, which lasted only fifteen minutes, was prepared by UN-

11: Fr. CHARLIE MURPHY was here to give a seminar based on his new book, "Home at Last".

19: Fr. TONY D'SOUZA and Fr. NORM DICKSON were here for a visit.

22: Fr. Richard Nyombi (MOA) was here for supper after a three-day course on Islamology.

24: Jesuit candidate Simon Gachoki came for a visit.

## February

02: Return of Frs. LEO AMANI and JOSEPH PULLICINO from Dodoma with a small tractor. Mama Simba (our cow) gave birth to a new calf.

06: The Second Year Novices visit Tarangire National Park with Fr. AMANI.

17: Frs. LUDWIG and MSELE leave for Dar to attend a vocation promotion meeting.

21: News of the death of Novice Anthony Kilulu's father. Please remember the family in your prayers.

*Josephat Shete,  
N.S.J.*

## DODOMA

Friends in the Lord, I begin by giving you an apology for our silence, caused by the departures of LUDWIG, ODHI-

AMBO, RICHARD, and the arrivals of MADRA, KIZZA, GASPAS and IKUNZA. Our community is seemingly being reshaped.

Going back to January, GASPAS was in Nairobi for his annual retreat and the Local Superiors' meeting. At the beginning of February he was in Dar es Salaam for the Vocation Directors' meeting. From January 24th to March 18th, the community was enriched by novices KAYEMBA and OUMA, who came for their two-months apostolic experiment with the children on the Dodoma streets.

And for the past two and a half months, GASPAS and KIZZA have been working hand-in-hand with a local benefactor, Dr. Masimo, constructing the basketball court at the Youth Centre. The construction is still going on, slowly but surely.

From February 11 to 15, MADRA, who directs the affairs at the parish's Computer Centre, went to Dar es Salaam to have one of its computers repaired. The computer centre this year has so far registered the highest intake in a single batch of 49 students, whose introductory courses last for 10 weeks. The centre also has given birth to a sister Secretarial Training Centre which started on February 18, and its courses are to last for 3 months. The first batch of students number 9. Thanks to Hekima College for surrendering their manual typewriters to us for this purpose.

quietly but powerfully, in the manner of proceeding of each one of us.

2. Very many Jesuits have already experienced for some time the rejuvenating impact of a more faithful adherence to the authentic Spiritual Exercises. Now they have a map and a set of directives showing them the way in which the graced energy they have acquired can generously be employed in the service of God and assistance to his people, in today's world.

3. It should be noted that the renovated Constitutions do not merely present ideas and ideals that are left to the choice of individuals according to taste. The Congregation, with full legislative competence, has authoritatively decreed what every Jesuit must do if he is to remain in any meaningful sense a member of the Society. Moreover, as members of one Society, it is not enough if each one of us works privately, and perhaps timidly, for the attainment of its aims. We must act corporately and openly, giving unambiguous witness to what we stand for as a body, with honesty and courage.

4. The Congregation also did other important business that must be kept in mind. It clarified the status of brothers and priests, and the meaning of "being in tune with the Church"; it took a stand on the intellectual and the parochial apostolates, and called

attention to possible neglect in the observance of chastity and the promotion of vocations. It broadened the horizon with regard to mass media, lay collaboration, dialogue and ecumenism, women's rights and environmental problems. All this, together with other directives of the Church and of the Society, has a bearing on our understanding and practice of the updated Constitutions.

5. On the other hand, the Congregation did not issue decrees on the dangers of individualism and secularism, nor on other matters like formation - not for lack of concern but because such subjects had already found adequate treatment. It did speak of prayer, and recalled that we are expected to be contemplative in action; but this is not so much a matter for legislation as for a humble and sincere quest by each one, though in companionship.

6. In fact, the whole follow-up of GC34 must be a common task. Many have said that the implementation of all that has been decreed has to be undertaken by entire communities and affect their whole way of functioning. This will be our special concern at the year that lies ahead. It has particular relevance to our solidarity with the poor.

7. Effective collaboration, in its turn, calls for the spirit and exercise of obedience. Obviously, the decisions of GC 34 call for obedience; but two

areas need to be stressed, and the first is fidelity to New Evangelization. The decrees on Mission face us with some inescapable questions: Is my work truly the carrying out of a mission? Am I doing it in the way that the Lord and his bride the Church expect from me? Do I proclaim Christ in a manner that is meaningful in the cultural context of my ministry? Am I really one with the poor, the oppressed, the persecuted? Do I withdraw from the world, or get too much involved in it? Does my faith truly bring me in communion with all humanity in a dialogue of life and a quest for God? Am I ready to shake off all complacency, and go through a genuine conversion, in order to respond to these challenges honestly and effectively?

8. The second area calling for fidelity is an assimilation in depth of the spirit of the Constitutions so that they can effectively mould us into one apostolic body, as they have done from the beginning. We must thank

God that in all the trials and tensions it has gone through, the Society was able to maintain its unity; unfortunately, even a single discordant voice can mar the harmony of an entire chorus, and this has happened occasionally. Saint Ignatius leaves no doubt that only total loyalty can make each one of us and the whole Society into a fit instrument for mission. We have no room for halfhearted men.

9. In fine, the Congregation, in the name of the Society, asks us for a straightforward answer to the question put to a candidate when he applies for admission [Examen 51]: "Has he taken a firm decision to throw in his lot with this Society of Jesus our Creator and Lord, to live and die in it?" We have reason to be confident that future official meetings of the Society will be able to report that GC34 has indeed further strengthened the Society as an apostolic body at the service of God and his people.

**COMMISSION ON MINISTRIES MEETING;  
11-12 FEBRUARY 1997**

With the exception of Fr. OZY GONSALVES, who is on home leave, the other members of the Commission were present. The Provincial gave background information on the situation of the Province and told us that it was proposed that the Commission prepare for a Province

Meeting at the end of 1997. The topic for the meeting was proposed as "Conflict Resolution and Reconciliation", to be held at the Dimesse Sisters Centre, Nairobi, from the evening of 28th to the morning of 31st December 1997.

who packed the place, sang and prayed and listened to words of wisdom, of love and of truth and thirsted for peace, a genuine and lasting peace in Sudan.

On February 7th, the closing day of the Week of the Consecrated Life was celebrated on the Seminary grounds by the River. The Archbishop presided at the Eucharist and spoke well to the gathering of priests, religious and lay consecrated. The presence of the Bishops from South Africa enhanced the occasion.

And the country. These days we hear of war on the eastern and southern fronts. On TV we see soldiers marching or moving on trucks, and we hear speeches on the radio. We hear of universities closed to let students join the battle-lines. We all pray that Sudan may find the way to peace with justice, and to mutual respect and understanding. Please join us.

Please pray for Seminarian Lino Okenyi who died of cancer in Nairobi after a couple of years of medical treatment. For some time he had attended classes at Hekima College. He is greatly missed here.

*Paul Mallia,  
S.J.*

## NEWS FROM ARUSHA

*(Note: this contribution arrived after the March issue went to press)*

The RAFIKI Magazine for the first three months of this year is out. Please send us your feedback. Thanks to Fr. BOB MAYER for his recent appreciation of our magazine.

The First Years left for their apostolic experiments on 20th January. Fr. LUDWIG accompanied Novice JOHN BOSCO SANYU to Rwanda. He came back with great news on the country's present situation.

The Second Years embarked on the study of the Spiritual Diary, the Religious Vows and English.

## NOVITIATE DIARY

### December

30: Fr. John Stacer, from Harare, arrived to discuss intellectual formation with the Novitiate Community.

### January

02: Fr. JEAN-ROGER NDOMBI, from Hekima College, arrived for a visit.

04: Brother DEUSDEDIT arrived from Dar for his retreat.

our Jesuit Mission at the time of the Addis Ababa Agreement. Congratulations! - Fr. GEORGE UKKEN is at present, among other ministries, Headmaster of the senior section of Pope John Paul II School, responding to an emergency. A visitor who experienced Sudan for some years as he worked here, and especially at Wau, was Fr. NORM DICKSON (DET). One could easily notice that missionaries around were very happy to see him again.

The Seminaries we work in have had some visitors and events worth singling out. For a whole week Bishop John Njue (Embu Diocese, Kenya) was among us, sent by the Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples for an apostolic visitation of the Seminaries in Sudan. It was the first in St. Paul's history. Daily he was at the chapel presiding at the Eucharist. His homilies, lively and entertaining and solid, were like a good course on vocation to the priesthood. Many seminarians will long remember some of his phrases. He talked to Staffs and students at all three seminaries, and listened to their questions. The Bishop also presided as guest of honour on closing day, which was the feast of St. Paul (Jan. 25), Patron of the Seminary. The Eucharist under the "Rukuba" (shed) by the Nile was followed by entertainment by the seminarians - songs, speeches and short plays. It also included Fr. ED BRADY's awarding of prizes for those who had excelled at his seminars on Peace and Justice.

Other special visitors did not come specifically for the Seminaries. The Chairman of the Bishops' Conference of Southern Africa, Bishop L. N. Ndlovu (Swaziland), Bishop Mansueto Biyase (Cape Town), Com. Justice and Peace, Fr. Sean O'Leary, M. Afr., and Peter John Pearson, came to get to know about the situation in Sudan first hand and to share their experience as South Africa was making the transition from apartheid; they wanted also to thank other Churches who then supported them. And also to offer their own experiences, which might be enlightening to their hosts as they go through their present struggle. The group spent hours and hours meeting significant people, including Government ones (at the end of the visit), visiting the displaced from the South, and addressing staffs and seminarians. They hoped to learn from their visit and to enrich those they shared with. It was an unforgettable week.

As to the Archdiocese of Khartoum, the yearly practice of Archbishop Zubeir of speaking to his priests, religious and other apostolic agents about "the state of the diocese", is something to appreciate as one comes to a better knowledge of one's co-workers and of the concerns and projects of the archdiocese.

Striking as well was the celebration of the Day of Peace (Jan. 31) at the Comboni Grounds. One could feel the yearning of those thousands of people

Reports were given on the Country Meetings after Christmas 1996 and reactions to the Supplement to ONAP (Our New Apostolic Plan) discussed. The situation of JRS was also discussed and suggestions offered. In addition to this, each member gave a report on HIV/AIDS from the people he had interviewed. Lastly, we discussed Part VII of the Constitutions of the Society

of Jesus and their Complementary Norms.

Thanks for your prayers and support in our work. The next meeting will be held on 25-27 June 1997

*Alexander Juma Ochumbo,  
S.J.*

### ON THE ROAD AGAIN

From the 5th - 11th March I was in Nyandarua, commonly known as the Aberdare Mountains, and so I welcomed the higher, cooler air. My first stop was at Engineer - yes, that's the name - to visit the family and parish of former novice Charles Gachaga. Next day I moved on to North Kinangop Hospital, as a guest of Fr. John, the Hospital Administrator and builder of so much in that area. Nearby is the home of Isaac Kiregu Mwangi, now accepted for the Jesuit Novitiate for next July. And on Saturday, the 8th March, Fr. John made things easy for me by providing me with a Landrover and driver, who also happened to be from Manunga, my next port-of-call. Novice SAMUEL MUTHUMBI spent two years teaching at Manunga Girls Secondary School, but also his mother lives quite near the school. James Macharia, who has been accepted to go to Arusha at the end of June, had also been teaching at the same school. On the Sunday I celebrated Mass in the parish.

The last family and parish of this trip was that of James Macharia at Kinamba, 60 kms from Nyahururu. Once again the Sisters at Manunga made things easier for me by ferrying me to Ol Kalou where I exchanged the comfortable expanse of the school bus for the much more cramped space in an already packed Nissan bus as far as Nyahururu. And then on by another Nissan to Kinamba.

The Nyandarua area is still very much a mission area that has been well developed by the Fidei Donum priests from Genoa. At each of my stops there was considerable evidence of the fine work they have done - and continue to do - in the building of parish churches as well as convents and schools.

My journey home to Nairobi from Kinamba was made easier and pleasanter by the availability of a large Stagecoach bus.

I had one other journey from the 21st to the 23rd March to St. Mary's Teachers'

College at Bura, just under 40 kms from Voi and in the direction of Tanzania. There I met two Jesuit aspirants who are doing teacher training, as well as the sister of Francis Njuguna, n.S.J., who will complete her course on the 1st August. Bura Mission is one of the oldest Catholic missions in Kenya, and still boasts of the parish church built by the Holy Ghost Missionaries in 1892. The mission is

now under the direction of the diocesan clergy. My Saturday there was memorable as I experienced the first heavy downpour of rain for many months.

*Sean O'Connor,  
S.J.*

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

### HEKIMA COLLEGE

An ecumenical symposium took place at Hekima College on 26 February between the students of St. Paul United Theological College and ours. A healthy and constructive discussion took place on the topic: "Christian Life in our Community". We concluded the symposium with the Liturgy of the Word and prayers in the Hekima chapel, and had lunch together.

An African Assistancy meeting concerning an "alternative theologate" took place at the College during the first week of March. All the Jesuit Provinces in Africa were represented except the Nigeria-Ghana Region (which belongs to the New York Province).

In the same month of March our third year theologian, Sch. WILSON RAN-DRIAMANANTENA, lost his mother just before his diaconate ordination. A

young Sudanese seminarian, called Lino, from the Torit diocese, also died, from cancer. Lino had studied theology at Hekima College for one semester last year. Because of his sickness he was unable to continue his studies. We recommend WILSON's mother and Lino to your prayers.

Our Easter break started on March 21, and classes are to resume on April 7. On April 1st, seventeen Hekima College students were ordained deacons by His Grace Archbishop Raphael S. Ndingi Mwana'a Nzeki, Coadjutor Archbishop of Nairobi. Thirteen of the students ordained are Jesuit Scholastics: from the Eastern Africa Province we have BONAVENTURA BALIGE (Tanzania) and PASCHAL MWI-JAGE (Tanzania); From Madagascar, JAONAH HERIMALALA, JEAN-PIERRE RAKOTOMANANA, EMILE RANAIVOARISOA, WILSON RAN-DRIAMANANTENA and GABRIEL RAZAFIANDRIAMAHELA; from the Nigeria-Ghana Region, CYRIL LAT-

rain during the Easter Vigil and in the night following was a welcome blessing after four months of drought. Mwangaza was closed from Easter Sunday till April 3, when a new group of retreatants were due in.

STAN MASCARENHAS continues to live and help with retreats here. He hopes to get his new assignment in the near future.

OZY GONSALVES is expected back on April 4, having celebrated the 25th anniversary of his ordination (March 25) after Easter with his companions in Bombay.

*Tony Sequeira,  
S.J.*

### SUDAN JESUIT UPDATE

Besides our weekly Community sharing, we had some celebrations that brought the five or six of us in Khartoum together from time to time. Celebrations like that of the feast of St. Francis Xavier, when PAUL MALLIA led us, as well as the combined Seminary Staffs, at the Eucharist. Or birthdays, like PAUL BESANCENEY's, when two visiting South African Bishops joined the get-together and sang Italian songs, like "Santa Lucia", in powerful voices. Or RICHARD D'SOUZA's, at the Seminary in Shambat (where he is settled) and the semi-

narians sang joyfully. Or on New Year's Day (Independence Day in Sudan) when we gathered in HANS PUTMAN's room (and later in the pantry) at St. Augustine's Minor Seminary. Or, most recently, to bid farewell to RICHARD as he goes on home leave. It all helps to keep the scattered together.

RICHARD came to Khartoum to stay on December 25, and the next day was giving a promised retreat to the Sisters of the Sacred Heart (local) as they prepared for their renewal of vows. He has also been giving the Third Year Theologians a course on giving spiritual direction. - HANS PUTMAN continues with his itinerant ministry. At the end of January he gave one of the so-called Enlightening Conferences. He spoke on ecumenism, not on the type we usually hear of, but on the one with the Eastern Churches, with which he is more familiar. - PAUL MALLIA has been recently covering for the General Spiritual Director, Fr. Paul Uku, who has been long and seriously sick and is at present under treatment in Nairobi. - PAUL BESANCENEY recently attended - for the first time in his life - a Moslem wedding at which some 3000 guests were invited. It was actually two weddings, of a brother and a sister of one of the Seminary employees.

Down south in Wau, Bro. TARCI TOPPO has been celebrating his 25 years as a missionary in Sudan. He is one of the pioneer group that founded



ing a closer look. No ulcers apparently, and we hope that nothing more will be required than a benevolent diet. He has already taken a few notches off the belt, but Fr. DAN is four or five ahead of him, he says. And SEAN has made several trips, one to Voi, to visit candidates, their parents, parish priests, schools. We are very fortunate for this great shepherd.

Fr. KAPPA left for a holiday (his first in 7 years) in India, the day Fr. ERIC returned after a month's holiday. Fr. RICHARD D'SOUZA was in and out on his way home to India, and he will return to Khartoum. Bon voyage to all the travelers.

*Charles Murphy,  
S.J.*

## NEWS FROM MWANGAZA

Towards the end of January, we were visited by Fr. Rex Ockerz of the Sri Lanka Province. He was a co-novice of MANI NEDUMATTAM, TONY D'SOUZA and myself (1955-57). Rex visits Kenya regularly to give retreats, renewal courses and chapter preparation workshops to different groups of nuns.

After finishing the financial report for 1996, GILLES PION took a much needed rest at the Consolata House on

Shelly Beach, from February 20 to March 1.

From March 7th night to lunch-time on the 8th, TONY gave a recollection at CUEA, invited by MANI. It was very well attended by students and staff.

On March 15, Fr. Dick Smith, MM, left for medical treatment in the US. He has been ailing for months, bravely continuing to serve retreatants and others, but receiving inadequate results from doctors in Nairobi. He will be away for 6 to 8 weeks at least.

Repairs and remodeling of rooms continue at Mwangaza. Each room in Xavier House now has its own shower; occupants have three toilets in room 9. Work is going on in the main house with the remodeling of a room for a director.

CHARLES MURPHY conducted a prayer workshop on his books, March 21 to 25. From Wednesday 26 to 28 morning, JOE SMALL preached the Holy Week Triduum to second-year students of Hekima College at the Benedictine Sisters' Retreat House in Karen, while TONY did the same for the first-year students at Mwangaza. The Holy Week services this year were much improved with their singing and musical talents. GILLES PION planned and led a very meaningful liturgy on Holy Thursday. GERRY WHELAN also spent the Triduum with us and officiated on Good Friday. The

ZOO (Ghana); from the Province of Central Africa, ALAIN N'KISI (Zaire), ELISEE RUTAGAMBWA (Rwanda) and ANICET SETAKO (RWANDA); from the Zambia-Malawi Province, JOACHIM NTHAWIE (Zambia); and PETER McISAAC from Canada. We request your prayers for the seventeen students.

The Hekima College staff and students wish you a Happy Easter Season.

*Kifle Wansamo,  
S.J.*

## KANGEMI

One of our wise men asks: "How far has the Justice and Peace Commission been in Heaven?" He conceded that it needs to be restructured. "But why?" you may ask. His sarcastic answer is: "The distribution of rain is becoming so unfair!" Drought in the North, floods in the South. Don't you think it would be wise if we send the Commission for Ministries to inquire on what is happening there?

All is fine in Kangemi, and our zeal to "propagate the Faith" has never diminished. The just-concluded Lenten season, though hectic for us, has been so gracious. The Lenten message of the Kenyan Episcopal Conference kept

questioning: "How can we make our Kenya a better home for all its citizens?" This question will keep haunting us even if we have tried to answer it or just kept silent, gazing at such a big clumsy poster! We Kangemians narrowed the question to look at our own environment. "How can we really make Kangemi our true home?"

Christians in Small Christian Communities wrestled with the question, and out of concern for the dirt and filth that surrounds us, they dedicated themselves to cleaning it up.

Having fitted very well in the apostolic life of Kangemi, Fr. MELCHIOR MARANDU and TIM TOROREY, who were here for their experiment on March 21, rejoined their "inhouse" formation in Arusha. MARANDU was so useful, relieving our overburdened priests, whereas TIM brought great joy to the sick he visited in the parish. Kibagare students and staff were dumbfounded when MARANDU, after concealing his true identity as a priest of God, offered Mass for them. What can we say of you, MARANDU and TIM? We really miss you.

Sunday, 16th March, was very symbolic for our Christians, as we had time to reconcile with one another. Our ceremony of reconciliation lasted for some hours, carrying the message: "Reconciliation is a step toward true peace". Be true to yourself and certainly

God will be true to you. Thanks to the Sisters, Scholastics and Novices whose input on true reconciliation keeps echoing in the heads of many of our Christians.

The expected and non-expected: JOHN GUINEY had his birthday on March 4th. The catalogue can remind you of his age if you are interested to know it. JOHN, thank you for all you have contributed to the Province so far. Much more is still awaiting you ahead, so just fasten your belt.

We had IGNATIUS IKUNZA on his way to Dodoma and ELIAS VUCIRI on his way to Mwanza. They just wanted to confirm that we were still breathing. Welcome again, our friends. We hosted Fr. Don. Doll, S.J., for two nights. He came from Creighton University, Wisconsin Province. Bishop Rotich, the Auxiliary Bishop of Nairobi, also visited the parish briefly.

*Sosthenes Luyembe,  
S.J.*

### **LOYOLA HOUSE, NAIROBI**

*(Written on Good Friday, 28th March)*

The mysterious death of a young student leader, Solomon Muruli, continues to be a source of people's outrage.

Help for others? Just heard this morning that my ticket is in Nairobi for my holiday in the States, and that I can pick it up tomorrow. A Holy Rosary Sister brought it from Dublin, from the World Travel Centre (FAX: 000-353-1-677-7756). I must have sent 15 faxes and e-mail letters before getting this ticket at \$1550 (\$1600 with money transfer). I go from Nairobi to Amsterdam, to London, to New York, to Boston, to Washington, D.C., to Las Vegas, to Chicago, and back to Europe and Africa, with stopovers at Boston, Washington, D.C., Las Vegas and Chicago. Three months or less. This was by far the best deal for the trip, and I tried Siana and other agencies as well. The airlines are KLM and UNITED.

Fr. Don Doll, S.J., arrived from the U.S.A. with camera and loads of film: none of us escaped, not even the animals. We were delighted with his presence. JONATHAN, DAN and Don went to Mombasa for three days. I very much wanted to go, but work here and getting ready for a three-day thing on "Coming Home" kept me away. Everybody is impressed with Don's work around the world, his prize-winning work over the years with American Indians (1st prize in Kodak's Silver Eagle award - for longtime help and work in bettering people's lives, to be presented in Washington, D.C. in May), his current work in Africa, contributing to the worldwide protest against landmines, and his amiable fitting into any group

or situation. In May he will get an honorary doctorate at Marquette University. Congratulations, Don!

I did a little unplanned flying when I missed a step and dove two steps on to tarmac, landing on my left side and knees with the chest getting the brunt of the fall. No injury to the head or hands (I had been carrying meat in plastic bags) and, thank God!, no harm to the hip (the last words of the nurse after my hip operation: "if you wrench the hip you'll be back in the theatre"). The chest turned yellow, maroon and black, and was contrasted and matched two days later by red blotches from behind the neck and on the right front of the chest: chicken pox! But both of these are passing and hidden, and I was able to give three days at Mwangaza to ten people without too much difficulty. And the color splash on the chest was not in public view.

Fr. GERRY REBELLO saves us loads of time by working through all the travel red tape - "come back, come back". GERRY is not above using his savvy and contacts to make the process move more quickly, but it is, nevertheless, nerve-wracking labor.

Frs. GEORGE AIKARA and ZACHARIAS PAZHEPARAMPLIL enjoyed four days together at Loyola. ALEX OCHUMBO was also here, and made a five-day retreat at Mwangaza. ELIAS VUCIRI stopped on his way from Kampala to carry on to Mwanza, to continue his regency there. Right

now, Good Friday, JACOB OKUMU and FRANCIS KITOPE have joined us for an unscheduled but most reverent liturgy by Fr. DAN KENNEY. The cook who was supposed to come didn't show up, so we celebrated here, and Fr. TOM FITZPATRICK cooked an excellent tuna casserole for lunch; and DAN is due to do the honours on Holy Saturday night; and we all help.

Fr. EDMUND MALLYA has just arrived from Tertianship in Manila. Karibu sana! You are a welcome sight. The journey now goes into a new phase: the last for which the first was made. He interrupted his journey in Bombay, visited Goa where he met Fr. Hector Almeida. They celebrated Mass together at the tomb of St. Francis Xavier.

R.I.P.: JACOB OKUMU arrived today from Harare to celebrate the mystery of the Resurrection, the source of our Christian consolation, with the rest of his family in Mombasa, since his grandfather, who has long been missing, is now presumed dead.

This Good Friday, Fr. JONATHAN is at Mary Ward Center with the Brothers of the Student Community: triduum time. Fr. D'AG is making his retreat this week; Fr. FRANCIS RODRIGUES went to Mwanza with his brother John for B&R (business and relaxation). Fr. SEAN O'CONNOR has been going through a number of tests, the same kind he had in Ireland, but they are tak-