

NOVEMBER 1997

Eastern Africa Province

| | | |
|-----|----|--|
| Sat | 1 | ✠Jesuraja, Paul - Paul-Emile Filion ✠1992 |
| Sun | 2 | Anthony Kilulu, Sosthenes Luyembe |
| Mon | 3 | <i>Bl. Rupert Mayer - Optional</i> |
| Wed | 5 | ALL SAINTS AND BLESSED OF THE SOCIETY - Feast |
| Fri | 7 | Andrew Vuciri |
| Sun | 9 | Tesfa-Michael Haile Mehari |
| Tue | 11 | George Ochieng |
| Wed | 12 | Joseph Payeur |
| Thu | 13 | St. Stanislaus Kostka - Memorial Ozy Gonsalves, Stanislaus Mascarenhas |
| Fri | 14 | St. Joseph Pignatelli - Memorial, - Josaphat Shete |
| Sun | 16 | Sts. Roch Gonzalez, John de Castillo and Alphonsus Rodriguez- Memorial |
| Mon | 17 | Simion Esibo |
| Wed | 19 | Deogratias Mutayoba |
| Fri | 21 | Damas Missanga, +Joseph H. Small, *Bertrand Djimoguinan - *Ogun Osazuwa |
| Sun | 23 | <i>Bl. Miguel Augustine Pro - Optional</i> |
| Wed | 26 | St. John Berchmans - Memorial |
| Fri | 28 | *Alain Ngudi Mpuni, <i>Jacquelin Saucier</i> ✠1967 |

YOUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED

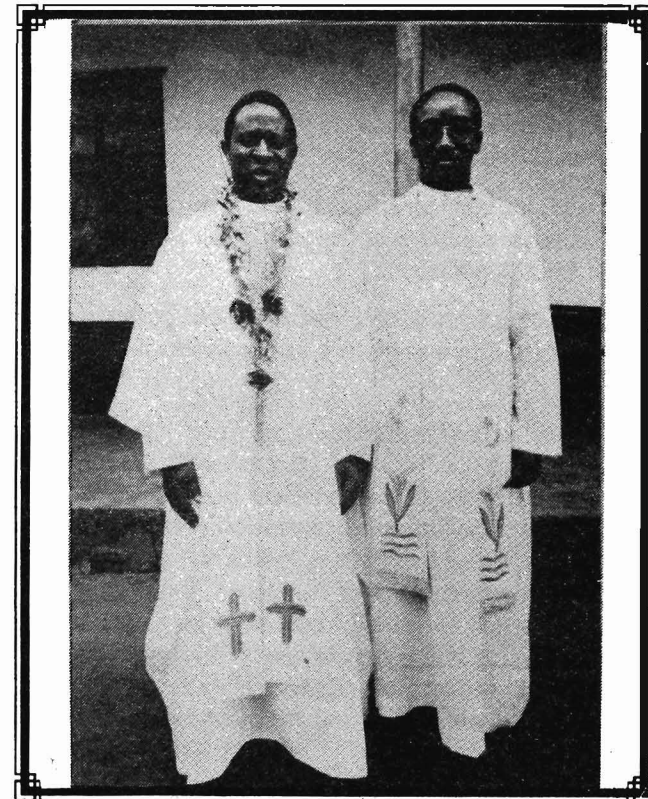
- ◇ For Mr. Aloice Afulo Ogotu, the father of JOSEPH ODUOR AFULO, S.J., who is recovering from a mild stroke.
- ◇ For the mother of JAMES WABWIRE, S.J., who is still sick.



Vol. 12 No. 9

October 1997

**FATHERS GEORGES KIMONGE, S.J.
AND DAMAS MISSANGA, S.J.**



ORDAINED IN TANZANIA, AUGUST 1997

FROM FATHER GENERAL

Curia Praepositi Generalis Societatis Iesu
Roma - Borgo S. Spirito, 4

97/10

Pedro Arrupe

TO THE WHOLE SOCIETY

Dear Fathers and Brothers, Pax Christi!

Pedro Arrupe was born on the 14th of November, 1907, at Bilbao-Biscaglia in Basque country. We have good reason to thank the Lord for his life of 90 years among us, a life now lived with Him.

Since June this year, his body rests in a chapel in the church of the Gesu where throughout the centuries a number of Generals of the Society have been interred near the tomb of Saint Ignatius.

I now invite the whole Society to be united at least in prayer and thanks-giving in the Eucharistic celebration to be held on November 14 at 5.00 p.m. in the church of the Gesu.

The intense apostolic activity of Father Pedro Arrupe was always motivated by his first desire to help the needy through the practice of medicine. This desire is expressed in the following words that he repeats to us today: We are all stewards of planet Earth - a planet to heal. Our responsibility to tend to its wounds is in proportion to the talents God has given us. Much is expected from those whose wounds have felt the soothing touch of His mercy. But healing will be superficial if the roots of infection are not explored and as far as possible eradicated. It is the human heart which stands first in need of healing. Only through inner change, the conversion or metanoia of which Holy Scripture speaks, will man become whole and, himself healed, feel impelled to turn in compassion to a planet in need of healing.

It would be appropriate, in the context of the November 14 celebration, to take to heart this and similar statements of Fr. Pedro Arrupe through whom the

collegiate sports tournament called Bertram Tournament, named after the founder of the College, Fr. Bertram, S.J. Another one was an inter-departmental cultural festival during which students exhibit their talents in various cultural activities. Both were exciting moments on the campus.

As all of you know, India and indeed the whole world have been mourning the death of the former living legend and champion of the poor, Mother Theresa of Calcutta. Her deep commitment to the poor led her to being mourned by all people in India, irrespective of creed. It was indeed national mourning. Her funeral, broadcasted live from Calcutta, was attended by millions of people including dignitaries from more than 24 countries all over the world. She was given a state funeral with full military honours, the kind given only to Presidents and Prime Ministers. Since independence the only other person who was accorded the same type of funeral, apart from Presidents and Prime Ministers, was the Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi in 1948. One Jesuit was heard saying: "This woman was great. Apart from Christians, she has inspired also Hindus, Muslims, atheists and even Jesuits".

Fr. General is making a visit to India this month of September, and he is expected to officially declare the current Region of Darjeeling to become a Province. He also hopes to hold a meeting in Bombay with Principals of Jesuit Higher Education Institutions in

India. But he is not making a visit to this Province of Madurai.

Binamungu N.F. Mukasa, S.J.

GETTING INTO SOUTH AFRICA - A WARNING

A little warning about the latest state of affairs with regard to getting into South Africa. Recent experience has shown that citizens of neighbouring African states who arrive by bus or train are automatically suspected of being potential illegal immigrants. The fact that they hold a tourist visa and return ticket does not seem to make any difference. They are expected to show that they have assets in excess of \$1 000 US or they either get a hard time or might even be refused entry.

There are three possible solutions to this difficulty:

- 1) Arrive by air with a return ticket.
- 2) If arriving by bus, train or ship, bring US \$ 1 000 on your person.
- 3) Ask me in good time for a letter stating that the Society has the required funds in a SA bank.

(Zimbabwe Newsletter,
1st October 1997)

Fr. Chris Chatteris, S.J writes:

programmes, etc.

With all this uncertainty we have lacked access to the camps, especially in providing them with radio programmes.

Elias Omondi, S.J.

HARARE

The newly vowed have certainly settled into the regime of our life of studies. You should listen to NJUGUNA quoting the Vatican II documents all over; of course not forgetting to mention KITUYI, who has made the computer room his permanent friend - a clear sign that some work is being done.

Ever heard of *Français*? Well, it is a concoction, fully fermented and brewed, that will definitely send *l'Académie Française* into fits. Of course our English professor, Fr. Gerard McIntyre, S.J., wouldn't be amused either, especially after spending a whole year with the second years. It is a linguistic crime that the second years are committing - beginning a sentence in English but ending it in French - a clear sign that they are still basking in their "French insertion" experiences: MUTAYOBA, for example, to drive a point home, would pause, then punctuate his ideas with "Écoutez bien", and "Bon!", while ARUNDA would wrap it all philosophically: "I understood well tout ce

que tu as dit, mais..." You only have to listen to them sharing how the first few weeks in Francophone Africa were to get a glimpse of it all. The French insertion took our men to Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Burkina Faso and Tchad; in fact some, thanks to their flight itinerary, had a day and a half in Paris!

Our men at the University of Zimbabwe are doing very well, and the topic of "possible dissertations for their MA theses" seems to demand most of their time presently.

The College multi-purpose hall is due to be ready for use in a week or two - a welcome sign that will definitely ease a rather conspicuous traffic jam in Kavuma House, the Jesuit community refectory at the College. Two new communities have been established and new staff keep on arriving, thanks to the Provincials and Regional Superiors of the Assistancy.

We send you all our greetings and best wishes.

Okumu Jacob, S.J.

FROM MADRAS

The two men in India are doing well and classes are in progress as the first semester of this academic year goes half-way through.

Two events which take place annually provided some relaxation for the students recently. One was an inter-

Society continues to be inspired, as it was in his time. May his example and intercession help us to walk along the path he traced for us. It will be the best way to thank the Lord for his gift to us of Father Arrupe.

*Fraternally yours in the Lord,
Peter-Hans Kolvenbach, S.J. Superior General.*

Rome, 27 September 1997

457th anniversary of the approbation of the Society of Jesus



97/10 (Enclosure)

TO ALL PROVINCIALS

In the event of an eventual opening of the beatification process of Father Pedro Arrupe, S.J., who died more than six years ago, the Provincials are invited to send to the Curia any information they may obtain according to the following directives:

Written statements of the memories and impressions of the personality of Father Arrupe, gathered from those who have better known him, especially through longer association. Testimonies of people who have freely stated that they seek Father Arrupe's help and intercession in prayer or who know of others who do the same.

Invitations to put such testimonies in writing must obviously be made without pressure or undue prompting.

Written testimony should be submitted to the Provincial in a sealed envelope accompanied by a statement guaranteeing its authenticity.

September 27, 1997

Curia Praepositi Generalis Societatis Iesu
Roma - Borgo S. Spirito, 4

97/12

Regarding Vocation Promotion

TO THE WHOLE SOCIETY

Dear Fathers and Brothers:

The Peace of Christ!

The Thirty-Fourth General Congregation recommended that I write a letter regarding practical aspects of vocation promotion, after studying the diverse experiences throughout the Society (D 10,4). The meeting held in Loyola, 21-25 July, to reflect upon vocation promotion and to discern what the Lord is asking of us, was very useful for acquiring more and better information on the present situation in the Society in this area and to discern concrete methods with which we can and should collaborate with the Lord to raise up vocations to the Society.

In agreement with the reports of the Delegates at the meeting in Loyola, today there exists more preoccupation regarding the lack of vocations than real interest in promoting them. At the present time in the Society there are only 23 full-time vocation promoters, few Provinces have teams and/or networks for support, and only nine have formal plans for vocation promotion, realized by a promoter with the help of a team and with the support of the Provincial. Although in almost all places there are activities to accompany those who are interested in the Society, only 22 Provinces have a pre-novitiate that is more or less institutionalized. In some parts there is a tendency to confuse or equate the accompaniment of candidates with vocation promotion.

The ministry of vocation promotion is crucial and determinant for the future of the Society and the services that it is called upon to offer in the Church. Vocations are a gift of God, but a gift conditioned upon our efforts to raise them up and discover them. I am convinced that the Lord is sending us vocations since the Church continues to express the desire to count upon the help of the Society. It is certain that there are "external" factors outside the Society (cultural, familial, social, and ecclesiastical) which do not enhance the evaluation of the consecrated life as a fulfilling option for young people from the human and Christian

and meekness. Well done, Fr. Marangoni, great Comboni missionary of Africa!"

Charles C. Murphy, S.J.

NEWS FROM NGARA

On the 6th of December 1996 the Government of Tanzania announced that all Rwandese refugees were to leave the country by 31st December. This provoked panic; many refugees fled the camps and went to hide in the forest; others took to their feet saying that they were going to Kenya, Malawi, Uganda, etc.

This was a very difficult movement and a painful one. The Government sent in soldiers to flush out the refugees from their hiding places. They were then forced to walk back, this time not to the camps but to the border with Rwanda. Some had to walk for over 75, 85 kilometres. Children collapsed on the way while others simply died. Thousands of children also lost their parents. Some of the JRS staff helped in the distribution of biscuits. This over-reaction certainly showed that the majority of the refugees were not ready to go back to their country. Wounds had not yet healed: there was fear of revenge, with the 1994 genocide still very fresh in the minds of many.

The period after repatriation was a

very painstaking one, and very uncertain as well. The return of over 700,000 people meant that the number of camps was reduced from over ten to only two, and consequently NGOs were reduced from sixteen to four. Unfortunately JRS was not included. This meant that the role of JRS-Ngara was left in a balance. UNHCR had always classified us under a mass information campaign for the return of the Rwandese, and so, with their repatriation apparently we had no further role to play.

The UNHCR started asking for all its equipment back last March. We had to negotiate with the UNHCR Dar es Salaam Office, asking them to sell us the equipment if they were not willing to give it free. Their answer was "a clear no". We were told to hand over all radio and non-radio equipment, but through the intervention of the local Government the UNHCR was prevented from taking the radio equipment. So what has been given back at this stage is only non-radio equipment like cars, computers, handsets, photocopiers and printers, etc.

The latest news is that the UNHCR is planning to hand over the equipment to the Tanzanian Government, who would later pass the equipment on to us. But JRS wouldn't like such a solution, given the conditions the Government would be sure to impose on us. JRS has been running the radio as a community service, broadcasting programmes on health, education, environment, women's affairs, children's

NEWS FROM ...

LOYOLA HOUSE

The political climate in Nairobi and Kenya remains confused and tense. We pray that out of the present turmoil peace may surface, a peace based on a right ordering of things.

PIO CIAMPA visits us regularly, but the other Jesuits assigned to Loyola, our diaspora, do not get here that often. MANI manages to return once a month or so. RODRIGO and JONATHAN went to Rongai on the 27th to overlook PIO's place, and they returned with CHARLIE who had gone to Rongai on the 20th to give a retreat to the community/novices.

DAG and MARCEL have returned, and we are awaiting the news on VICTOR's leg: he has a cyst on the ankle. Doctors are trying to determine how serious this is, and what to do. VICTOR is in Malta on holiday. Prayers. GOOD LATE NEWS: The cyst is benign. If all goes well, Victor is scheduled to be back at Loyola House on October 24. KAPPA has not been able to say Mass for the Brothers (Missionaries of Charity) for several weeks because of hip and leg pains. He is seeing a physical therapist. He usually feels better after that, but the pain remains. He keeps smiling most of the time, and gives everybody a bad time. Deo gratias!

STEPHEN and DEVA were off from

time to time on their usual visitations, and SEAN too. We will celebrate SEAN's 60th in the Society on October 4, if we can keep him out of the matatus long enough!

PIO gave me numerous printouts while I was at Rongai, and one was for the Newsletter: "After his return from home (23 August), the first two mini-publications (handbills) by Fr. PIO have been: one on 1998, Year of the Holy Spirit, containing nn. 44-48 of the letter of Pope John Paul II on "The Third Millennium is Approaching" (November 1994), and a smaller one: Prayer to Jesus: Pray the Name of Jesus, from the Catechism of the Catholic Church, with an updated translation and adaptation of the monogram IHS of the Society of Jesus."

Fr. PIO goes on: "La Famiglia Cristiana of September 24 (the Italian Catholic weekly with the largest subscription - one million copies) has published a letter by Fr. PIO on Father John Marangoni, founder of the Apostles of Jesus, of the Evangelizing Sisters, of the Contemplative Evangelizers of the Heart of Christ (Rongai), with the photo of Fr. Marangoni with a group of "Contemplatives" (Photos by BART MURPHY of Hekima). The Editor adds in P.S.: "Thank you, dear Fr. CIAMPA, for having made known to us and to our readers this outstanding modern missionary, still spreading enthusiasm and courage, in humility

points of view. But we should also recognize that the Lord calls us to be more active and "aggressive," to make use of all the means and resources necessary to collaborate with grace in the raising up of vocations, following the example of St. Ignatius and continuing the tradition of the Society. For these reasons I ask the Major Superiors to consider the promotion of vocations as a real apostolic priority, clearly expressed in the apostolic provincial plans, and that they dedicate the personnel and material resources that are necessary. In addition, I am proposing to them some concrete measures to put this priority into practice.

Although it cannot be considered merely a strategy for obtaining vocations, a renewed and well-structured youth pastoral program is the best context for raising up and discovering them. The Spiritual Exercises as an experience of personal encounter with Christ who calls, along with personal contact and spiritual accompaniment must be priorities in our ministry with young people. The life and mission of the Society in the future depend upon the youth of today. Therefore, I ask that we dedicate the best of our resources to reestablish contact with young people where we have lost it and to reinforce and better organize the contacts we already have.

But youth ministry is not enough. The explicit work of vocation promotion is also necessary, different also from the pre-novitiate programs and the accompaniment of those who are interested in the Society. In each Province or Region there should be a full-time vocation promoter or animator, who can count upon the real assistance of the Superiors and be capable of stimulating and discovering possible vocations. And in as much as the responsibility for vocations is with the apostolic body, the promoter should stir up and animate practical interest in vocations among all Jesuits and put into effect a plan of vocation promotion adapted to every concrete situation, that can involve in different ways the communities and apostolic works of the Province or Region and which does not a priori exclude any social group, culture, region, or forms of living and expressing faith.

We should be aware of the capacity and responsibility which all of us have to promote vocations, if we live out our vocation and mission with clarity, visibly, and unambiguously, as an apostolic body and not only as apostolic individuals. The lack of simplicity in our style of life, the inconsistencies in our way of living the vows, some postures suggesting disaffection for the hierarchy and ambiguities in respect to the Magisterium of the Church, little zeal and apostolic creativity, and lack of openness and community hospitality certainly play a role in the dramatic decrease in vocations in some parts of the Society. Candidates certainly do not expect to find ideal forms of life and perfect men. But they certainly desire and need support in the unfolding of their religious vocation in

order to be men of prayer and community, in order to work in the mission of the Church and to assume and live ignatian spirituality with enthusiasm. For this reason I invite all of you to continue the discernment regarding what it is that the Lord is asking us to do to revitalize our community and apostolic life and in order to be transparent and visible signs as men consecrated to God and to our mission, as an apostolic body in the Church.

Vocations are promoted by means of prayer, of a clear presentation of our charism and mission, by personal contact with young people in the many areas of apostolic work, by inviting those who are interested in the Society to participate in our works and ministries, by making the Society, its mission and its saints, known by means of posters, books, videos, radio, television, and the internet. But these means by themselves are not enough. A personal relationship is required by which the vocation to the Society is proposed as a option for personal and Christian fulfillment.

Without having an obsessive preoccupation for the number, the vocation promoter must look for candidates of apostolic quality, with deep faith, healthy, well-balanced, with experience of God and of the sacramental life; who have faced and assimilated the dark aspects of their lives, their sexuality; young people who love the Church and believe in its renewal; with the intellectual capacity to complete the academic formation required for our apostolic mission.

Since a vocation is above all a gift of the Lord, I invite you to personal and community prayer for vocations, constant and consistent, according to the tradition of the Society.

In order to assess progress towards what has been established in this letter, I ask the Major Superiors that they inform me expressly and concretely in their ex officio letters of the decisions and steps which they have taken to promote vocations in their Province or Region. May the Lord help us to discover what he is asking of us in order to collaborate with him to give us vocations and that He give us the will to accomplish it effectively.

*Fraternally in the Lord,
Peter-Hans Kolvenbach, S.J. Superior General
Rome, 29 September 1997*

**THE DEADLINE FOR THE NEWSLETTER COPY
TO REACH NAIROBI IS THE 28TH OF EACH MONTH**

vocation promotion moving ahead in the whole area around Lake Victoria. These two letters provide good news that the plan of regionalizing our vocation promotion efforts in this big country of Tanzania is now better understood and accepted.

In Addis Ababa Fr. Provincial interviewed two aspirants, and they were approved as candidates.

In Kenya Fr. RODRIGO has had a first look at aspirants - three young men, one of whom is from Sudan, and this month he will meet yet another five.

My travels this month took me to the Western and South Nyanza Provinces, to the area around Lake Victoria. Thanks to our comfortable and reliable big buses I was able to reach the main points of Siaya, Kisumu, Nyahururu, Asumbi, Rakwaro and a parish near Homa-Bay; and finally Eldoret, before returning to Nairobi.

In Nyahururu I was visiting four aspirants who have just started a teacher training course at St. Paul's Teachers' College. I stayed there for three days before moving on to Asumbi - again to meet two young men also in a teachers' college, and beginning their second year there. And, of course, it was very pleasant to be with Fr. GEORGE AIKARA, who does such important

work with the aspirants, novices and sisters of the Franciscan Sisters of St. Joseph, better known as Asumbi Sisters. From Asumbi I was fortunate in getting a lift most of the way to Rakwaro Minor Seminary, where I was invited to speak to all the students.

The last leg of my outward journey was to Eldoret, where I managed to meet some aspirants on the Chepkoilel campus of Moi University; but I had to postpone a visit to the main campus of the University, as Fr. TERRY CHARLTON was due there to have a CLC weekkend. However I did meet the leaving class of the students at Mother of the Apostles Seminary, also in Eldoret, then back to Nairobi by a Stagecoach bus, a much more comfortable way of travelling, and pleasanter, than by being tightly packed into a Peugeot or a Nissan van.

So kindly keep in your Masses and prayers our aspirants in the various training programmes - teacher training, accounts courses, computer training - those doing their attachment - and, of course, the young men who'll be sitting for their final examinations this month in Kenya.

Seán O'Connor, S.J.

4) require superiors and directors of works to cooperate in vocation promotion;

5) ensure ongoing formation of Ours in Ignatian spirituality;

6) develop clear apostolic plans with clear priorities, including diversity of apostolates beyond our established institutions.

THE SUPERIORS ARE ASKED TO:

a) promote within their communities fidelity to our way of proceeding, prayer and other spiritual practices, openness and hospitality;

b) cooperate with vocation promoters by:

1) reminding Jesuits of their responsibility in this regard;

2) advising vocation promoters about good lay collaborators who can assist in vocation promotion;

3) assisting in various programs by making community facilities available, etc.

4) receiving into the community and supporting candidates and taking responsibility for their formation;

5) directing the community in the preparation of strategies for vocation promotion.

THE VOCATION PROMOTERS ARE ASKED TO:

a) visit communities to:

1) share and invite dialogue on the criteria for selecting candidates;

2) explain procedures of candidacy and evaluation.

b) work with teams and other collaborators in a common plan;

c) solicit the help of Jesuits who reflect joy in their vocation;

d) visit places and situations where youth gather;

e) work more closely with laity;

f) establish programmes for Ignatian discernment among the youth;

g) publish clear criteria for selection of candidates;

h) produce materials for candidates and for vocation promotion, using all available media and technology.

(Zimbabwe Province Newsletter 6)

VOCATION PROMOTION - MORE WELCOME NEWS

Two very enthusiastic letters from our Vocation Promoters in Tanzania were a very welcome change in September. From Dodoma Fr. SUNHWA sent the good news of two Tanzanians meeting Fr. Provincial and being formally approved as Jesuit candidates. And there's great hope, too, of a diocesan priest joining a little later on. From Mwanza Fr. MSELE has also written to Fr. Provincial with clear signs of

CURIA NEWS

FROM FATHER GENERAL'S CALENDAR

October 1- 3: Visit to Pakistan: Lahore, Karachi

3-18: Visit to India: Bombay, Pune, Darjeeling, Delhi

APPOINTMENTS

- Father Cherian Padiyara, 47, the first Provincial of Darjeeling (India).

He will take charge on October 14, when Father General officially inaugurates the Province.

- Father Antanas Saulaitis, 58, Provincial of Lithuania-Letonia.

CONGREGATION OF PROCURATORS

It is foreseen that Father General will call the 68th Congregation of Procurators for September 17, 1999, Feast of St. Roberto Bellarmino. Provincial Congregations will be held before April 15, 1999.

LETTERS FROM FATHER GENERAL

Four letters from Father General are on the way to the Provinces. The two letters addressed to All Major Superiors deal with the "ex officio" letters for next year and the creation of the Permanent Interprovincial Commission. In one of the letters to The Whole Society, Father General writes about the Promotion of Vocations. In the other, he announces the celebration of the Eucharist to celebrate the Anniversary of Father Pedro Arrupe's Birthday (November 14, 1907) and the translocation of his remains to the Gesu Church. In an enclosure, Father General recommends to the Provincials

concrete steps to be considered for an "eventual opening of the beatification process." *{Two of the letters and an enclosure mentioned above are printed in this issue of Easternet.}*

CENTENARY OF ST. PETER CANISIUS' DEATH

On the occasion of the Centenary, the Pope has written a letter to the German

Bishops. It appeared in the Osservatore Romano of September 26.

CLARIFICATION

Father General was elected by the Union of General Superiors and confirmed by the Holy See to attend the Special Synod of America (November 16 - December 12, 1997).

From

S.J. ELECTRONIC INFORMATION SERVICE PRESS AND INFORMATION OFFICE - ROME - N. 14 October 1, 1997

FROM THE PROVINCIAL'S DESK:*Appointment by Father General:*

FR. ANTHONY SEQUEIRA has been appointed Province Consultor to take the place of FR. JOHN GUINEY who has been Province Consultor since January 1st, 1994. Father General in his letter thanked FR. JOHN GUINEY for all he has done to the Province as Consultor.

Change in Kangemi: FR. JOHN GUINEY leaves for Kakonko in Kigoma Diocese in Tanzania to work

with Jesuit Refugee Service and FR. EDMUND LELLO MALLYA is the newly appointed Parish Priest of St. Joseph the Worker Parish since October 12th.

Fr. Provincial's Schedule for October:

01 - 08 Canonical Visitation of Khar-toum Jesuit Community

14 - 18 Canonical Visitation of Moshi Jesuit Community

20 - 22 Province Consult.

Left the Society: Scholastic Josphat Mbiri Gikonyo on 25/9/97

ORDINATION OF FR. DAMAS MISSANGA, S.J.
(3rd August 1997)

Deacon DAMAS MISSANGA was ordained priest in Ntuntu, his home parish, in Singida Diocese, by Rev. Mario Abdallah Mgulunde, the Archbishop of Tabora. The Archbishop came in place of the host bishop, Rev. Bernard Mabula, who was away for treatment.

The ordination Mass started at 10.00 a.m., presided over by the Archbishop. He was assisted by Fr. GEORGES KIMONGE, then deacon, by two other deacons from the diocese and, of course, by the parish priest, Fr. Aloysius Salvii. About twenty priests at-

tended the Mass. We were blessed with the presence of several Jesuits: Fr. Amani, who represented the Provincial, Br. Vincent and two novices. These were from Arusha. GEORGES KIMONGE joined the Dodoma team, which included the parish priest GASPASUNHWA and IGNATIUS IKUNZA. We had two other deacons, ALEX OCHUMBO and PASCHAL MWIJAGE. Mass was followed by other activities.

The reception was held in the parish hall. After lunch visitors, guests and friends joined in the traditional dances

prepared for the occasion. Several "important" guests gave their speeches, of which I don't have any copy; but all was geared at thanksgiving to God for the gift of DAMAS to his family, his parish (DAMAS is the second priest from this parish) and to the Society of Jesus. Many gifts were presented, including several goats.

The following day, Fr. DAMAS MISSANGA presided over the thanksgiving Mass in the parish. After Mass all the guests and visitors were invited to the home of Fr. DAMAS by his generous mother. The family gave lunch and drinks to all who came. They ate, drank and went away praising God.

The Jesuits are not known in this part

of the world. Several times I had to answer the question whether the Jesuits were one of the companies operating in Tanzania under the present open-market policies. After the ordination of DAMAS I think many came to realise at least who we are.

Fr. AMANI and his delegation, PASCHAL and ALEX left on the 4th August. The Dodoma delegation was the last to leave. I left on the 6th for Dar, but my trip was interrupted 10 km from Dodoma, when our bus "decided to fly", killing two people and injuring several others. I was back to school on the 8th.

Muna Leodgar, S.J.

VOCATION PROMOTERS' MEETING
(Spain, July 1997)

Brother Jonathan Chazura (ZIM) went to Spain to attend a Vocation Promoter's meeting. Among other things he brought back a list of recommendations. Here are some of them:

THE PROVINCIALS ARE ASKED TO:

- a) take a deep personal interest in vocation promotion and to make it a high priority for their Province;
- b) assign a full-time vocation promoter for the Province, even at the expense of other apostolates;
- c) make financial and other material

resources more readily available for the work;

d) take advantage of annual visitations and manifestation of conscience to:

- 1) encourage and challenge communities to be actively involved through greater openness and hospitality, greater fidelity to our charism and our way of life, the preparation of a plan for vocation promotion within the community;
- 2) discuss with individual Jesuits their personal contribution to vocation promotion;
- 3) make sure that the Province is praying, and is praying for vocations;