


OCTOBER 1998

Eastern Africa Province

Thu	1	*Thomas Fitzpatrick
Sat	3	St. Francis Borgia - Memorial,
Sun	4	*François d'Assise Allébé, *Kazadi Tshikolu, Bernard Wasilwa
Tue	6	<i>Bl. Diego Aloysius de San Vitores - Optional</i>
Sat	10	Anthony D'Souza, Francis Rodrigues, *Emmanuel Mumba
Mon	12	Josephat Kabutta, *Bernard Ramananjahary
Tue	13	Gerald Arunda
Wed	14	St. John Ogilvie - Memorial, <i>Théodore Monnens</i> †1956
Fri	16	Pius Ojara
Mon	19	Sts. John de Brebeuf, and companions - Memorial
Tue	20	Charles Kizza
Wed	21	⊗George German: 50 years in SJ, Paul Mallia
Thu	22	+John Morris
Fri	23	⊗Paul Mallia: 50 years in SJ
Sun	25	⊗Victor Jaccarini: 50 years in SJ
Mon	26	*Evariste Rakotondrazanany
Wed	28	Simon Drasiga
Thu	29	*Charles Chilinda, Mikael Kyalo, *Gerard Whelan
Fri	30	<i>Bl. Dominic Collins - Optional</i>
Sat	31	St. Alphonsus Rodriguez - Memorial

**YOUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED:**

- ♥ NJERU, who are recovering from their wounds sustained in the Nairobi bomb blast.
- ♥ For Mrs. Mary Atieno Opongo, the mother of ELIAS OMONDI, S.J., who was recently diagnosed as having coronary heart problems and is now undergoing treatment.



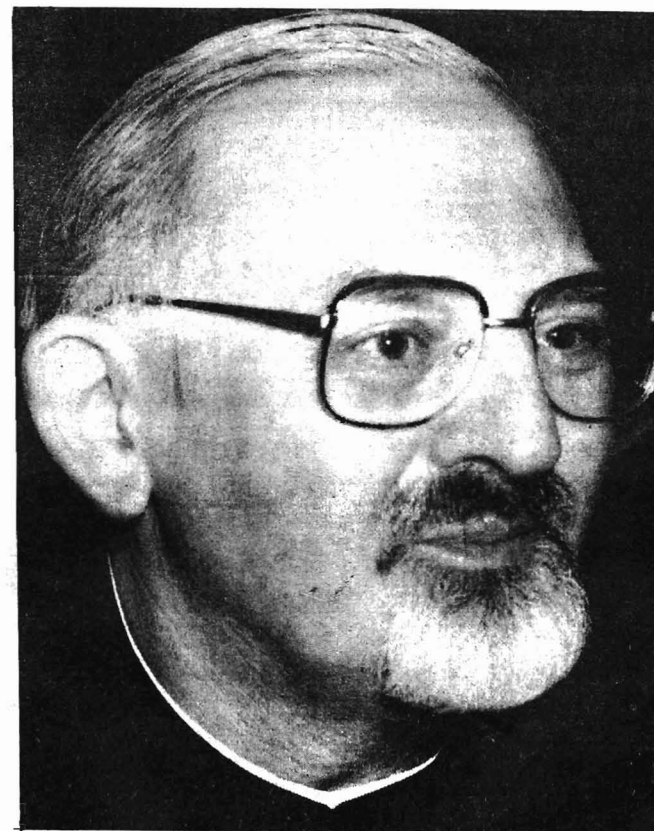
*Easternet*

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**FATHER GENERAL VISITS OUR PROVINCE**

## FROM THE PROVINCIAL'S DESK

### GRACE-FILLED MOMENTS

The last four months have been busy. But the month of August has been extremely busy, characterized by constant travels [which means I have not been anywhere near the Provincial's Desk for a long while], meetings and extraordinary blessings.

I was on the move from the 8th of August, travelling to Bukoba for the ordination of PASCAL MWIJAGE. On the 11th I was travelling again, on the way to Addis Ababa for the visitation of Ethiopia with Father General. On the 15th Father General, Father Matungulu [Assistant for the African Assistancy] and I travelled together to Harare for the JESAM meeting and the official opening of Arrupe College. Personally I had a third reason for going to Harare: the first vows of TESFA-MICHAEL, JOSEPHAT KABUTTA and HILLARY LIVOMBOLO.

I have never met so many Bishops and Archbishops on business matters in one month. All in all, I was really touched by the simplicity and the warm hospitality

of our Church leaders, starting with the Bishop of Bukoba, the Cardinal Archbishop of Addis Ababa, the Apostolic Nuncios. I saw signs of real care, hope and genuine concern for the people of God on the Continent of Africa.

It was also for me the first time in my life to be in the company of Father General for twelve full days. I had the opportunity to talk with him personally, and I have no words to express the experience. Perhaps I should say we moved from grace to grace.

On the practical level, there are two projects which will eventually affect the future of our Province. One, on August 13th, a feasibility study for a University College project, proposed by the Catholic Church of Ethiopia, was presented to Father General. On receiving it Father General said we are interested, but there are some pertinent questions to be answered before the Society of Jesus can give a definitive answer. Two, one of the 1998 JESAM meeting decisions is to have an Assistancy Tertianship by the year 2000. In the coming months we shall be

in Kinshasa. and you can just imagine the chaos which erupted inside the place when all these guys met with the twelve who were in Kinshasa. Warm hugs and loud greetings were powerfully exchanged as the former Dean, Fr. Stacer, S.J., who incidentally joined the "bus" on his way from Lagos, watched smiling from ear to ear while shifting focus from one person to the other. To make the matters better, we were travelling in the company of the popular Congolese musician Koffi Olomide, whom JAKI can swear he greeted by hand and even had a word with. Thanks to God we all arrived safe and sound. The other scholastics came in from their holidays and teaching practice. What a happy reunion!

The First Years were welcomed, and they immediately embarked on

their orientation programme. The other Years had a rigorous workshop on Communication, facilitated by Fr. Bob White, S.J., from Rome, in conjunction with local experts in the media field. But hey! Have you done your retreat yet? So those who hadn't were sent to Chishawasha for an eight-day encounter with the Lord. And some might have been pardoned for forgetting that Fr. General was due to come from Rome and Ethiopia. So, directly from the retreat, the classes began and the preparations for the opening of Arrupe College were completed. What a hectic beginning ! Then Fr. Rector SHIRIMA left for Brussels to attend a meeting on formation.

*Shete Wangira, S.J.*

### YOUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED:

- ♥ For Mr. Y. Ohure, the brother of PATRICK-MARIE JAKI, S.J., who died on the 20th of July.
- ♥ For the many people who died or were injured or traumatized as a result of the bomb blast in Nairobi and Dar es Salaam on the 7th August, and for the many others who died or were blinded by the later disaster following the drinking of illicit brew.
- ♥ For Nicholas and James Njeru, brothers of Novice ATHANAS

*(Continued on page 28)*

Chikomba, the Pro-Vice-Chancellor of the University of Zimbabwe, who congratulated the Society for its work in the academic and spiritual formation of the young people in Zimbabwe, and hoped that the association of the University with the College will continue to enhance the mission of the Society of Jesus.

During his keynote speech, Fr. Kolvenbach stressed the importance of the philosophy of nature in creating ecological awareness, especially today, when the world is gripped by the ecological crisis. All marvelled at the eloquence and intelligence of his inspiring treatise, which included the canticle by St. Francis in praise of God's creation, and the need for the human person to come down to a "democratic presence" in the universe. He also referred to the Principle and Foundation, to the cry of wonder in the Contemplation to obtain Love in the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius.

Fr. General's speech was followed by Mass. Our Archbishop, Patrick Chakaipa, of Harare, was the main celebrant during a very inculturated Mass in which three of Ours, KABUTTA, TESFA-MIKAEL and LIVOMBOLO, pronounced their first vows in the Society of Jesus. They were presented with the Constitutions and the Crucifix by Fr. FRATERN MASAWA, our Provincial, as Fr. LUDWIG VAN HEUCKE, the

Socius to our Novice Master, accompanied by soft background music, read out words of wisdom about these instruments of our mission.

Later Fr. General unveiled the statue of Fr. Pedro Arrupe, which stands elegantly in front of the staff block, marking the official opening of the College. Lunch was efficiently served in the new multi-purpose hall, to the satisfaction of all. Fr. General was able to have a meeting with our Jesuits, both old and young. His witty responses were accompanied with a great sense of humour, as he endeavoured to tackle all sorts of questions, leaving all contented. A quiet supper with the Arrupe community ended this historic day.

*Shete Wangira, S.J.*

#### **THE REST OF THE NEWS FROM ARRUPÉ HOUSE**

Now we are back again in Harare. Most exciting was the trip for the First Years from their French immersion. Those from Kigali surprisingly had to take a flight to Douala where they joined those already there and the others from Yaounde. Those from Ouagadougou soon joined them. Together in the Cameroon Airlines plane they landed

taking some practical steps on these matters while praying to the Holy Spirit for more light and guidance.

#### **Ordination to the Priesthood**

On Saturday, September 26th, for Deacon ISAAC KIYAKA. The function will be held in Metu Parish, Arua Diocese, Uganda.

#### **Congratulations to our Returnee from Abroad**

AQUILINE TARIMO has returned to our Province from

JSTB, California, U.S.A., where he completed his doctoral studies in Moral Theology. He defended his doctoral dissertation successfully on August 18th. Congratulations, and Welcome back!

#### **Back in Action**

Father GERRY REBELLO is back in office-action, after spending nearly three months on Mission appeals for MIVA in the U.S.A. He returned on August 31st.

#### **AUGUST - A MONTH TO REMEMBER**

Elsewhere in Easternnet is a report of the three-day seminar organized by Fr. JOSEPH PULLICINO in Ethiopia for a Jesuit candidate and three aspirants, right after Fr. General's visit. Thank you, Joe, for the encouraging news.

Back in Kenya the month of August was sadly memorable for so many people - the dreadful bomb blast on the 7th August that killed so many, blinded and injured so many others and traumatized probably thousands. Hardly two weeks later there were the reports of at least 80 deaths and many other people blinded from another disaster: consuming illicit brew.

In the early part of August I was in Mombasa for the usual round of home and parish visits of a Jesuit candidate and aspirants. I was also asked to celebrate Holy Mass in the Cathedral Parish, and again in Changamwe, as well as say a few words at both Masses. And once again I was inveigled by Sister Maggie Kennedy, the person in charge of Communications in the Archdiocese of Mombasa, to record two programmes for the Z.B.C. So - stay tuned.

I was fortunate in travelling to Mombasa by the night train, something I haven't done for almost ten years. I chose this way in view of all the talk about the poor condition

of the tarred road from Nairobi to Mombasa. It was a welcome change and meant I really had an extra day there.

Yes, the road is quite bad, as I discovered for myself when I had no choice but to go to Voi by road a few days later. I was fortunate, though, in having a comfortable front seat in a Nissan small bus and, as well, a very good driver who made the three-hour journey reasonably comfortable. Not so the seven-hour journey from Voi to Nairobi I had to undergo three days later. That was real tough and tiring.

I was present at a graduation ceremony at St. Mary's Teacher College, Bura, near Voi, on the memorable 7th August. A Jesuit candidate who spent a full year in a voluntary capacity at Mwangaza was completing his two-year training course. The impressive ceremony was very much affected once the news of the bomb blast was announced to the assembly at the half-way stage.

Some days after my return to Nairobi I was on the road again, this time to Eldoret and Kitale mainly. I wanted to be present at the Episcopal Ordination of Fr. Maurice Crowley, a Kiltegan priest and former Rector of Mother of the Apostles Seminary,

Eldoret. He had always welcomed me to speak to his minor seminarians. The impressive ceremony took place in the Kitale show-grounds, in the presence of thousands of people, almost all of the Bishops of Kenya, the Papal Nuncio and about 250 priests, as well as many Sisters. Cardinal Tomko was the ordaining prelate.

While in Kitale I visited the families and parishes of three aspirants before continuing on to Bungoma and Mumias, where I visited yet another family of a Jesuit candidate and a Jesuit aspirant, as well as staying in the local parishes and, as usual, including visits to the convents who do so much to promote religious vocations.

Once again may I appeal to our fellow-Jesuits in Tanzania, Sudan and Uganda, to let the Province hear of your vocation promotion activities. That's what our Newsletter is for. And to help our Jesuit communities to continue praying for more Jesuit vocations, I am including yet again a Vocation Prayer.

*Seán O'Connor, S.J*

exception of Fr. Barakana, who is too old to travel, and of Fr. Elie Koma, who remained behind to take care of the Mzee. Fr. Stromes, the Provincial of Maryland Province, was also there at the invitation of the two new priests who are now studying at Weston College. I also met quite a few former Jesuits who have maintained happy and supportive contacts with Jesuits. These included Mr. Laurent Kageruka and Mr. Alphonse Rugambwa, now in high positions, both in business and in government respectively. The day ended with a banquet in honour of the new priests and the new Jesuit, in company of their relatives, families and close friends. The following morning, the newly-ordained Emmanuel Wamungu, flanked with his companions and not a few Jesuits, celebrated his Thanksgiving Mass at very short notice. The chapel was packed to overflowing. Apparently this is not untypical. The attendance at Mass every morning and evening is astounding.

I flew back to Nairobi on 1st August, in the company of scholastics MAZARATI and ADELIT, of Rwanda-Burundi, treasuring great memories of the Kigali celebrations and of the great work of our brothers at Centre Christus, who work very hard as their services are very much in demand. I am very grateful to Fr.

Mutemangando for the invitation, and for the hospitality I received from Fr. Karekezi, the Superior, and from Frs. Mudendeli, Nkeramihigo and Bouillot, without forgetting the American priest who has joined the community. To all, and particularly to the newly ordained and the newly vowed, sincere thanks and ... blessings!

*Leo Amani, S.J.*

#### FR. GENERAL'S VISIT TO HARARE

On the 22nd August a great crowd of dignitaries, religious men and women, invited guests, as well as our own Jesuits, streamed into the Arrupe College compound to give a warm welcome to Rev. Fr. Peter-Hans Kolvenbach, S.J., Superior General of the Society of Jesus, who was set to officially open the College after its fourth year of existence.

Fr. VALERIAN SHIRIMA, the Rector of the College since its inception, began the ceremony by congratulating the staff and scholastics for their immense contribution in making the College what it is today. Fr. Landsberg, the Provincial of Zimbabwe, then gave a historical background of the College and its progress until the present time. Next to speak was Mr.

properly taken care of. I was reminded of the sixties and early seventies in Tanzania. Now, by comparison, this Kigali hospital looked like a show-piece. Fr. Ugirashebuja was improving, but would have to stay in hospital for a few more days ... and miss the celebrations.

The ordination and vow Mass started at 10.30 a.m., on 31 July, in an outstation near the Centre Christus, which is served by Jesuits from the Centre. Many Jesuits were present. Families, friends and other faithful filled the beautiful church to capacity. The singing in Kinyarwanda was quite good, the participation better than normal. Every so often hands would go up, swaying nimbly and gently to the right and to the left in a ballet manner, to the typical Kinyarwanda rhythm. I was told that the Bishop's homily, in Kinyarwanda, obviously was to the point, without a word wasted, but with every word pertinent to the occasion, in the context of this still troubled country. Fear had been expressed that the vow part would be overshadowed by the ordinations, but this was not to be. (It was St. Ignatius who was actually somewhat overshadowed, as he was hardly as much as mentioned ...) SANYU became the first Jesuit, probably in the whole African continent, to

pronounce his vows in the vernacular. This made a deep impression on the people, probably more than if it had been done in French, to which SANYU would not have been equal in any case. The vow formula had been carefully translated from both French and English versions into Kinyarwanda by Fr. Mudendeli himself, touched on presumably by others, before the final text was used.

After the Mass, we had three new priests (who, in God's plan, if we dare to guess, would replace the three Jesuit "martyrs" killed in the genocide, the late Frs. Mahame, Gahizi and Rutagambwa), with a new Jesuit for good measure, in the person of JOHN BOSCO MUHIRE SANYU, S.J., as a bonus. EAP is happy to have helped in his foundational formation.

The rest of the day was celebrated in a big hall of the Social Centre adjacent to Centre Christus, to the vigorous Tutsi dance of a local cultural group and with drinks and a simple meal. I was very happy to meet SANYU's family: his three brothers and three sisters, and particularly his mother, elegant and dignified. Anybody would have thought she was his sister, so young did she look! I was equally happy to meet with practically all the Jesuits in the Region, with the notable

### September Vocation Prayer

You are truly blessed, O God of holiness. You accompany us with love as we journey through life. Blessed too is your son, Jesus, who continually calls us to leave all things and to follow Him in purity of heart. Fill us with your Holy Spirit to open our eyes to the needs of all. Inspire us with words and deeds to comfort those who labor and are heavily burdened. In Your mercy, pour out the grace of a Jesuit calling upon many young men, that our service of others may continue and increase. Keep our works and ministries faithful to the example of Jesus, who lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen.

### MWANGAZA NEWS

On August 4th, Fr. JAMES EGAN (WIS) arrived via Ireland to help with the retreat starting on the 10th. He has worked as 'Minister to Priests' in the Diocese of Omaha, and helps those with addictions. This was Jim's first experience of guiding Jesuits in their retreat.

On August 7th night, Fr. JOSEPH BOEL (CHG) returned to Mwangaza for another three years. He only heard of the bombing when the KLM pilot announced it just before landing. WELCOME BACK, JOE!

their retreat from August 9th to 18th, after the Arrupe Month in Nakuru. Deacon KIFLE WANSAMO came for his retreat from the 11th to the 20th.

Fr. TREVOR D'SOUZA came to help with the retreat, 19th to 28th.

On Saturday, August 22nd, TONY gave talks on 'Profiting from Spiritual Guidance' to the Staff and students of the Carmelite Seminary on Langata South Road.

*Tony Sequeira, S.J.*

13 Hekima Scholastics made

### FR. GENERAL'S VISIT TO ETHIOPIA

The awaited time arrived. The number of the community members grew steadily. Abba GROUM had arrived much earlier, on 28th July. GROUM's presence, as many of our young Jesuits who passed through Arusha Novitiate may imagine, changed the atmosphere of the community. Then came Abba TURENNE, with a nice and resounding voice, while GROUM and BERHANU were busy decorating the chapel for the feast of St. Ignatius. GROUM's initiative reminded BERHANU of his novitiate time with him. Anyone who knows Abba will recall his taste in the decoration of the chapel for the preparation of any feast. Abba, thank you very much for fulfilling a saying of your country: "A priest and/or a woman is never a guest." Though you were a visitor, we made you work, in fact, toil.

The feast of St. Ignatius passed with joy. Yet another joy was to come: the visit of Fr. General. Fr. JOE PULLICINO was busy writing letters and making phone calls to religious communities and parish priests, informing them about the conference that Fr. General was going to give. It was

to be on "The Present Situation of Ecumenical Relations", especially with the Oriental Churches. According to Abba GROUM, the conference was the highlight of Fr. General's visit. He reminded us about the beginnings of the Jesuit apostolate in Ethiopia, in both its achievements and its failures. As an ecumenist, he put into perspective the importance of this apostolate as a priority in Ethiopia today. A week before, and even much earlier than Fr. General's arrival, almost every religious community and all parishes, as well as family members of Jesuits in Addis, were informed. For such an effort Abba JOE deserves a big Thank You! Top communicator of the year!

As the days approached the community grew again from 3 or 4 members to 11. On the 7th August arrived Abba MIGUEL, who made his presence felt once again in Addis. You may ask how? As he is our Socius, I would suggest that you find out by visiting him at Hakimani. Then came our Father Provincial FRATERN MASAWA, on the 11th of August. The two Ethiopian Jesuits present did not give him a chance to stay too long

Kiswahili or English, even though I could have managed in French. They seemed quite familiar with the people and places in Tanzania.

At Jomo Kenyatta International Airport in Nairobi, I had met Fr. Martin Mudendeli, and so we travelled pleasantly together to Kigali. To welcome us at the airport was the majestic, towering figure of Fr. Theoneste Nkeramihigo, accompanied by a scholastic from Congo Brazzaville, Yvon Christian Elenga, a Hekima College graduate. Centre Christus is not far from the airport. So, after a few minutes' drive, "voilà", we were there! With the exception of an additional wing to the Jesuit community house for offices, etc., the Centre has not changed much from the last time I was there some 9 years previously, on my way to Cyangugu to visit Fr. Augustin Karekezi, then Novice Master of the Cyangugu Novitiate, which is now no more. All were as busy as bees, particularly in preparations for the big day when not only would SANYU pronounce his vows but, in addition, three deacons, two of them graduates of Hekima College, would be ordained priests by our well-known Bishop Alexis Habiyambere, S.J. These are: Anicet Setako and Elisée Rutagambwa. The third, Emmanuel Wamungu, who graduated in our theologate in

Naples, is currently studying in Rome.

The day before the ordinations-cum-vows celebrations, I wanted to catch at least a glimpse of Kigali and get a general impression. Fr. Octave Ugirashebuja had fallen sick with anaemia and had been admitted to the hospital, thus creating a lacuna in the feast preparations (and also for Hekima retreats, to which he had been invited as a director). When Frs. Nkeramihigo and Mudendeli were going to visit him, I was happily asked to accompany them. They seized the opportunity to quickly show me around as well. The town seemed to be bursting with life. There was evidence of reconstruction practically everywhere. We arrived at the government hospital at non-visiting hours, but with the help of a doctor known to my hosts, we were whisked through the hospital corridors to Octave's ward. The hospital was most impressive, especially given that it was a government hospital. This was so much unlike what we are increasingly seeing in our government hospitals in Tanzania and even in Kenya. The place was very clean, and looked as if it had been recently painted. The doctors looked like doctors. Again surprisingly I overheard at least two talking in English. Everything looked

HASCHKA for directing our companions in their retreat as they prepared for their vows. We won't hesitate to call on you again. Similarly, we have appreciated the visits of Frs. WHELAN and AMEDEUS SHIRIMA, of Schols. KARUMBA, OKUMU and ARUNDA. You are most welcome any time.

As we look forward to the next millennium we have found it worthwhile to take a few steps in anticipation of the future. While the young Jesuits were having their meeting, tackling the issue of self-sustenance and income-generating projects, we were busy trying to harmonize our existing projects with the current need of profit-making endeavors. An important step in this line is to keep tabs on all our records and account books, to be in a position to analyze our progress. The enthusiasm and commitment that has been invested in this venture is very promising, and we look forward in hope to a better future.

Not long ago we made a breakthrough in Njiro-Korona by being the pioneers of biogas as a source of energy. Credit goes to Bro. VINCENT, whose supervision ensures a steady supply of raw material for this precious undertaking. In his inauguration

speech Fr. AMANI termed the project a challenge to the community's computer wizards. Can they run the plant with the computer, or will the plant supply power for the computer ??

*Simon Gachoki, n.S.J.*

### JOURNEY TO KIGALI

Fr. Tite Mutemangando, S.J., the Regional Superior of the Rwanda-Burundi Region, had kindly invited me to the first vows ceremony of former novice JOHN BOSCO SANYU, in Kigali, on 31st July. I therefore travelled to Rwanda on 28th July.

The flight, on an Alliance Express Fokker Friendship plane, took us over Kenya, north-western Tanzania and Rwanda. Looking down over the beautiful, green, undulating hills of Rwanda, I could not but recall that down there, just over four years ago, the terrible genocide had taken place. We landed at Kigali airport with its gorgeous airport building, a real jewel. There was no sign left of any previous military clash on this small but impressive structure. And to my great surprise the friendly immigration officers, knowing that I come from Tanzania, talked to me in

in his room. They took him up the Entotto Mountain to visit the oldest Orthodox church in Addis. As is the tradition, Fr. MASAWÉ took off his shoes and entered into the sanctuary. He almost made it to the Holy of Holies. He was happy to discover another African culture.

On the same evening, 11th of August, Fr. General and Fr. Matungulu, Assistant for Africa, arrived safely at Bole International Airport, and were welcomed by Abba JOE, Fr. Provincial and Abba GROUM. The three delegates of the community of Addis who welcomed them accompanied them as well to Siddist Kilo Jesuit residence. Fr. General himself indicated that though it was his first time to be in the Addis Ababa Jesuit community, coming from Bole Airport, he had been there in transit a number of times.

Many of us, I'm sure, remember that Master Ignatius had a desire to mission himself to Ethiopia: but his desire never materialized. However Fr. Pedro Arrupe made it in 1966, as the first successor of our Founder to do so. Thirty years after Fr. Arrupe's visit, Fr. P.H. Kolvenbach fulfilled again the great desire of Master Ignatius.

Three grace-filled days followed, from July 11th night to the morning of the 15th.

On the 12th August the community participated in the Eucharistic celebration presided over by Rev. Fr. General. It was moving to reckon that the successor of St. Ignatius, and an Orientalist, was recalling the spirit of the Founder in such a simple liturgical celebration.

On the 13th August, a feasibility study on the foundation of a University College was presented to Fr. General at the Nunciature. He also had lunch there with the Nuncio and with Abuna Berhane-Yesus, the Auxiliary Bishop of Addis Ababa. At 18.00 he gave to a group of religious and lay people the conference on ecumenical relations mentioned above.

On the 14th August, Fr. General visited the JRS Office on Debre-Zeit road. He, and other Jesuits with him, were welcomed by the JRS Country Director, Abba ALEX OCHUMBO, and his staff. There, Fr. General was presented with the traditional coffee ceremony. Abba ALEX was so inculturated that he was "paparazed" many times in his

Ethiopian traditional attire, assisting in the coffee ceremony where Fr. General, Fr. Assistant and Fr. Provincial were presented with gifts. If anyone is interested in a photo of the occasion, contact a "paparazzo" of the day, Abba GROUM. The pictures are so good that one could use them as postcards of the year.

After JRS, it was the visit to Galilee Centre in Debre-Zeit. A wet, rainy day. This did not impede the visit of Fr. General, Frs. Matungulu and Masawe from taking place. The placid lake, despite the rain, and the warm welcome of Fr. R. TURENNE and the staff brightened the time spent there.

Finally, Fr. General, with Fr. Matungulu and Fr. Provincial, left us for Harare on the 15th morning. The Addis Ababa Jesuit community is really indebted to them and thanks them on behalf of the whole Province, and regrets that there was such a tight programme. However, it is our desire, Fathers, to have you again, and we promise you will have better sunshine! Thank you once again for your presence among us.

Soon after Fr. General's

departure, the community was again in dispersion. On the 16th, Abba RODRIGO left for his Amharic course. He stays with Consolata Fathers for five days and comes back to the community during weekends. On the same day, JOE PULLICINO, Abba GROUM and BERHANU left for Debre-Zeit with a candidate and three aspirants to the Society of Jesus, for a three-day seminar. The following day BERHANU shared his experiences as a young scholastic in formation, and Abba GROUM shared on the novitiate life and his experiences as a Jesuit formator. And there was a Franciscan Sister who shared her experiences on community and religious life. And, of course, she was the star with her clear and dynamic views. On the next day Abba JOE gave the young men a talk on Discernment, and on the last day Br. Vincent, a Christian Brother, gave them an exercise and reflection on Motivation to Religious Life. The seminar was quite successful, and the young men were eager to have such a programme on a regular basis. The next one is scheduled for early next year.

Fr. GAGNON, after having managed to feed such a

Programme. He has now returned to Ireland to complete that programme.

### THE NOVICIATE STARTS A NEW YEAR

After a short break we spring back again into the limelight, this time round in the new formation year (1998-99). As we started a new year, we also bade farewell to our five companions who have been admitted to their vows. All our best wishes go to them as they proceed in their formation. We miss your company, and may God bless you abundantly.

It was reminiscent of the anxious moments in a delivery ward, waiting to hear the good news. We were waiting when it all happened on the first day of July: "You've got yourselves six new brothers", announced Fr. LEO AMANI, as he received the new companions presented to him by Fr. SEÁN O'CONNOR. Here we would like to pay tribute to Fathers TONY WACH, GASPAR SUNHWA and SEÁN O'CONNOR, and all those who have helped our six new fellow Novices to be accepted for the Society of Jesus. The six First-Year novices are gradually assimilating the Jesuit way of life. We wish them God's blessing as they tread along in search of the Father's will. As the Chinese proverb

says: "A journey of a thousand miles starts with a single step". They have taken that decisive step, they have placed their hands on the plough, and may they not look back over their shoulders.

In the last couple of weeks we have had a number of very instructive courses, notably:

- on the Spirituality of the New Testament and
- on the History of Spirituality, offered by Fr. GEORGE THOTTUNGAL;
- on Christian Anthropology, offered by Fr. George, SDB;

(These three courses were open to external students);

- on the recent General Congregations and
- on Alcoholism and Addiction, both offered by Fr. LUDWIG VAN HEUCKE.

We have highly appreciated the presence of the esteemed guests who adorned our community on different occasions. We thank Schol. MKENDA who stayed and worked with us for about three weeks. We were happy with your companionship and your contribution, and we wish you all the best in your daily endeavors. Once again we express our deepest gratitude to Fr.





*Fr. Paschal, the new priest, is garlanded by one of the Bukoba Sisters.*

### **BIOGRAPHY OF FR. PASCHAL MWIJAGE, S.J.**

PASCHAL was born in 1961 in Bukoba, Tanzania. The first years of his secondary education, Forms I - IV, were spent at Rubya Seminary, and he then moved to Minaki High School in Dar es Salaam for his A Levels - Forms V and VI. PASCHAL spent one year in National Service after completing Form VI, and this was followed by a year of Jesuit candidacy at Mwanza. During that time he also taught at Lake Secondary School, where Fr.

ALOYSIUS D'SOUZA was still Headmaster. He entered the Jesuit Novitiate in Lusaka, Zambia, and after his first profession he went to Lubumbashi for his Juniorate, which he completed in 1990. Then followed the three years of Philosophy at Kimwenza, from 1990 to 1993. His Regency was spent in Kangemi Parish, where he did pastoral work. In 1994 he moved to Theology at Hekima College, where he was ordained to the Diaconate in 1997. His next assignment was to Milltown Park Institute of Theology and Philosophy at Dublin, Ireland, for a two-year Graduate Spirituality

"multitude" for a week, needed a well-deserved rest at Galilee Centre, and came back refreshed. But Abba GROUM and Abba MIGUEL left for Harar, Abba GROUM 's birthplace, and came back safe and joyous. Finally, Abba MIGUEL left for Nairobi on 25th August for his new assignment. On the 24th evening was his farewell party and, to the surprise of Fr. GAGNON, MIGUEL announced that he would come back within a month. Abba

MIGUEL, know that we'll miss you until next month. On the 25th evening JOE PULLICINO left for Debre-Zeit with José Bandrés, a White Father, to direct an eight-day' retreat. So, you can imagine how few we are in the community. Hence, Karibu - Welcome, and join us until we run short of rooms, if you do not mind the cold of Addis, which is actually clearing off as September approaches.

*Berhanu Tamene, S.J.*

### **FR. GENERAL'S HOMILY AT THE JESUIT COMMUNITY MASS IN HONOUR OF ST. IGNATIUS (Luke 12, 49), on 12th August, 1998**

Through the celebration of the feast of St. Ignatius in this year, which the Holy Father has consecrated to the Holy Spirit, we turn to Ignatius' own experience of life in the Spirit.

Ignatius rarely refers to the Spirit, although it is fully present in his life and writings. From the moment of his conversion he is moved by the Spirit whom he sees as his unique guide. It is his daily concern "to advance in the Spirit", "to experience the fire of the Spirit", "to walk in fidelity to the Spirit", and to avoid losing anything of his fervour. We note, in particular, his attachment to

spiritual discernment, the greatest gift of the Spirit, through which Ignatius seeks to discern God's will as well in the orientation of his apostolic life as in the concrete details of daily living. It is the Spirit that accompanies him on his journey to God. It is the Spirit that helps him recognize God in all things. He knows that the Spirit is life-giving water and breath, but his experience also leads him on to perceive the Spirit mostly as light and fire, a bright presence that enlightens his being. He sees in him the fire of the prophets and of the burning bush, that sets his heart ablaze with desire for God.

When Ignatius begins to be attentive to his inner self, he discovers a wide variety of movements, ideas, moods and emotions. His spiritual journal emphasizes his preoccupation to remain attentive to these inner motions, "more or less good", as a balance in perfect equilibrium that the Spirit can incline, in the direction that he wills, to God's greater glory and praise. Another image that expresses this disposition is the blank cheque that the Spirit can fill as he wishes, leading Ignatius to discover a God of surprises and of the unexpected. Even as a beginner in spirituality, Ignatius never thought of becoming a priest, of establishing a religious order, of becoming a Superior-General, of founding colleges and universities. His wish was to remain a pilgrim who would continue in the Holy land the work of salvation that the Lord had begun. His mind was filled with plans and projects, but he knew that the Holy Spirit would inspire the right choices to a man of desires.

Frequently the Holy Spirit would open before him new and unexpected possibilities. Ignatius had faith in and followed these

inspirations in the service of the Divine Majesty. He believed that the Holy Spirit fills the universe and was at work in the Church as also in his intimate self.

Out of fear of the Inquisition, Ignatius rarely mentions the Spirit in the Exercises. He is present, however, under different words such as love and consolation, and in the election process, so much that the Exercises could not be called "spiritual" without the Spirit working in and through them. The Spiritual Exercises have no other aim than to create in us a space for freedom and ability to listen, an attitude of welcome to the action of the Spirit, making it possible for us, under his impulse, to make the same concrete choices in our lives as Christians today as Christ did, becoming other Christs, each according to the vocation that the Spirit gives. Ignatian spirituality is not a technique to make wise decisions, but a strong inclination to seek the will of God. Ignatius endeavours to avoid stifling the Spirit, but rather to give him full freedom in the disposition of our lives. Ignatius is not attentive to his inner self out of psychological interest in knowing himself, but only that he live under the

shaking ride of over 53 kms. from the heart of Bukoba town. Those who had to travel by road had it tough, and even though they arrived bone-weary, dusty and dishevelled, the night's rest before the ordination restored their strength. No earthquake, storm or thunder could have made them miss such frivolity that comes but once in a lifetime to a blessed chosen few.

Bishop Nestory Timanywa was the ordaining prelate on the colorful occasion which lasted no less than three hours, and which was patiently borne by the faithful gathered to bear earnest witness to the anointing. PASCHAL's mother could not contain her tears of rapture as she watched her son prostrate on the ground in humble submission to the Lord's summons. 26 priests concelebrated the Mass, and the place was packed with over 1000 people, comprised of PASCHAL's brothers, sisters, friends, parishioners and curious onlookers! Then followed a sumptuous feast of pilau, steamed bananas, lots of beef and gallons of beer ... Such jubilation and cheer prevailed and only a miracle could curb the blissful crowd of relatives and well-wishers from the graceful gyrations of the traditional dances. The dancing and cheering continued through the night, and PASCHAL's mastery of the jig was duly noted.

When talking with Fr. Provincial, Bishop Nestory stated how happy he

was to have Jesuits once again in Bukoba, even though it was for a short time. He paid tribute to the work of Father William Picardo and Fr. Hector Almeida some years back, when they were teaching in some of the schools of Bukoba Diocese.

On the morning of August 10th the newly-ordained priest, looking resplendent in his rainbow-colored traditional robe, strutted to his first Mass at his village called Tabola. There were 15 priests present for the whole day affair. Then Fr. Provincial had to return by MAF to Nairobi, since he had to go next to Ethiopia where he was to meet Fr. General. It is said that the first several hours of their conversation was nothing but a vastly glorious description of the ordination by the bedazzled Provincial!

PASCHAL studied and grew up in Bukoba. He went on compulsory National Service, which prepared him for the Lord's army as a Jesuit warrior. Then followed Novitiate in Lusaka, Philosophy in Kimwenza, Regency at Kangemi, and Theology in Hekima College. He is currently studying Spirituality in Dublin, Ireland. His Rector from Dublin, Frank Sammon, was present for the ordination, and the sleek, sanguine smile never left his face thereafter.

*Fr. Francis Rodrigues,  
S.J.*

## ORDINATION OF PASCHAL MWIJAGE IN BUKOBA



*Fr. Paschal is flanked by Bishop Nestory Timanywa and Fr. Provincial Fratern Masawe. At the back is the sister of Fr. John Guiney, S.J., now working with J.R.S. in Kakonko, Tanzania.*

On August 9th this year, we had a most memorable ordination in Bukoba, Tanzania. PASCHAL MWIJAGE was the second to be ordained priest in the Eastern Africa Province this year (ALEX OCHUMBO being the first). He marked Jesuit history by being the

very first to be ordained priest from Bukoba. MWIJAGE means "The one who extends peace". There certainly was peace on that distinct day, but joy was even more prevalent. It is amazing how resplendent an event it was at the little home parish in Bukoba. There was a long, bone-

movement of the Spirit for a pure service of the Father in the following of the Son. Ignatius does not minimize the difficulty in discerning the Spirit's will. All good ideas do not necessarily come from the good spirit, and behind a bad thought is not always lurking a bad spirit. In his prayer, Ignatius learned with St. Paul how the evil spirit can present himself under the guise of an angel of light. It is as if we were in a field where, according to the parable of Jesus, the good grain and the weeds are almost indistinguishable, that we endeavour to discern the good from the bad.

Belief in the Holy Spirit, for Ignatius, also means that in spite of darkness and obscurity, in spite of the conflicting spirits that dwell in us, the Holy Spirit's influence is always felt within us, identified as it is with the love of God and with all the manifestations of this love within us. It is not surprising then that the Spiritual Exercises produce new insights and a new

heart infused with the Spirit of love, always acting lovingly. This is the reason why Ignatius, usually reserved in his expressions, insists on repeating that the Spirit always touches our hearts softly, lightly, suavely, quietly and gently, like a drop of water falling onto and penetrating a sponge.

The Gospel of this feast has been chosen to emphasize Ignatius' adoption of the Lord's desire to bring the fire of the Spirit on earth and the sharing of Christ's passionate wish to see his fire lit everywhere in the world. Ignatius, however, was convinced that this fire will not spread unless our hearts are inflamed with the love of the Holy Spirit. To give us this Spirit, the Lord sits down once again at the table with us to share with us his body and blood. "Did not our hearts burn within us as he spoke to us on the road", "in the Spirit ?

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

## NEWS FROM ...

### LOYOLA HOUSE

August 7, 1998, will never be forgotten in Nairobi. The terrible destruction done by the bomb to people, to property, to peace, is incalculable. At Loyola House we added our prayers to those of Kenyans everywhere, in our Masses, our daily prayer before dinner, and on Wednesday night, August 19, our weekly prayer was a sharing of our experiences of that day and time, and then prayer for all the deceased, bereaved, injured.

Shortly after ERIC returned to Loyola from Nairobi Hospital, CHARLIE was struck down with pneumonia for the second time this year, and went to the hospital on July 30. He was released on Sunday, August 9, and continued medication at Loyola House. This attack was much more serious than the January one. He had to cancel all his August retreats (Mwangaza, St. Thomas Aquinas Seminary and Seychelles). His brother Tom called on August 9, wondering if any Jesuits had been in the bomb blast. Tom heard his brother's voice, and two days later called again and offered to pay a round-trip ticket and expenses to and in Las Vegas for recuperation. CHARLIE applied for a three-month

sick leave, and on Sunday August 23 he travelled to the U.S.A. The dry heat in Las Vegas should be perfect to heal his lungs. He had to cancel three more retreats, but the main goal was to get completely healed. The doctor, a lung specialist, speculated that he might not have been completely cured from pneumonia in January.

DEVA came down with the mumps, of all things! But in a week, during which he spent quite a bit of time at the office, he got back to perfect health. Bad colds: STAN, TOM and KAPPA. They have risen from the dead. ERIC, so close to the "leaving end" just a few weeks ago, has had a renewal in strength and went to Seychelles to take CHARLIE's retreat there. He stayed there some extra days to imbibe the beauty, the salt air, and relax a little bit.

We've had people with good health as well! STEPHEN and SEÁN were off visiting and doing their thing for about a week each. DEVA cancelled his trip to the capital of Burundi because of the mumps. STAN has given a number of retreats and does the work of guestmaster - not an easy job at Loyola! GAREAU helped with the scholastics' retreat at Nyahururu.

The Parish was left trembling like a leaf in high wind. Some of our workers are in such a shock that they still stare at each passer-by with suspicion. There seem to be lots of guns around Kangemi and in the Nairobi area. Anyhow, all in all we thank God that this crazy man did not kill more people around. The question now is: "How to improve our security in the parish?" Hire more bouncers? If you have some ideas, please let us know.

### Summer in Kangemi

This "summer" Kangemi has been particularly blessed with lots of visitors from our houses in the Nairobi area and elsewhere. Many scholastics and brothers from Hekima and Loyola House of Studies found a homely atmosphere to rest and do some studies during the holidays. RIGOBERT MUSENGE KYUNGU, from Hekima College, spent a little over a month with us. He worked with Ukweli Video, that is located at Westlands, but he also taught music to our second Mass choir. No wonder they sing better these days! Brother CHARLES KARUMBA also stayed in Kangemi for a month, doing some computer studies at our Training Centre. TESFA-MICHAEL was also in our community, helping at our dispensary before he left for Harare. TESFA and KARUMBA brought

much joy and laughter to our community through their humour. We miss you both. DEOGRATIAS MUTAYOBA, from Harare, decided to do some social work here during his vacation. DEO joined our social workers - Ruth Karimi and Sr. Honorina (MSOLA) - and the trio did a lot of visiting refugees and the poor of Kangemi. We were also privileged to host two Marianist brother-novices: Stephen Wanyoiké and Joseph. Stephen worked in our parish while Joseph did his apostolate at Kenyatta National Hospital. Fr. James Osimbo, of Mombasa diocese, spent two days with us. He will be back next month for his five-day retreat in Kangemi. "Karibu sana - Most welcome, James."

Fr. PROTAS OPONDO left Kangemi on 28th August for tertianship in the Philippines. We say "Ciao" (Good-bye until we meet again) to PROTAS, and thank him for all the work he has done in the parish. We shall certainly miss your contribution as a member of our team in the parish, but we are looking forward to your return to us.

*Fr. Edmund Mallya, S.J.*

was a close friend of the family. May the Lord rest his soul in peace.

### Province Accounts Office

## NEWS FROM KANGEMI

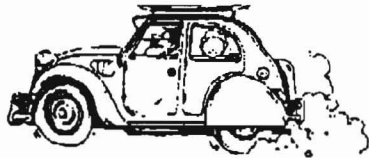
### Car-jacking in Kangemi

"Get out and bring the money", shouted the car-jacker to Tony, our driver, at the gate into the parking lot of the parish. It was just 10.30 a.m., and Tony had just come back from the Pastoral Centre where he had gone to work in the morning of Wednesday, July 29th. As he was returning to the parish the robber struck, waiving a revolver at him. Tony had only a thousand shillings on him, and he gave that up. When the gunman saw there was no money, he got into our Toyota Hilux and reversed at full speed. Meanwhile Tony got back his breath and some of the women workers came and saw the ugly incident; and they all began to scream and throw stones at the fast-moving vehicle. In seconds the crowd had gathered and the whole throng went into a frenzy, chasing the pick-up and smashing it with stones. But the man never stopped. He

disappeared into "gichagi" or Kangemi's most densely populated area.

Just when things began to cool down to a mere chatter, the thief came back on the same road, with the car roaring like a lion. The crowd woke up again and began to pelt the car with stones, avocados, tomatoes, onions and just anything, but the man simply disappeared, leaving behind a thick cloud of dust. Unfortunately, just near our carpentry workshop, a little girl of five was not fast enough, and she was hit by the fast-moving car. She was taken to Kenyatta National Hospital and died a day later. The car-jacker continued on to Waiyaki way. Near the National Museum of Kenya, he failed to stop and hit four cars, some of which were very badly damaged. He then got out of our smashed car and limped away into Nairobi River, still holding his gun. He has not been found yet, as no one is really looking for him.

I received the news through the telephone from Brother CHARLES KARUMBA while I was at Loyola House. On arriving at the parish, I just saw people and people, and stones everywhere on the road. The whole incident must have lasted less than ten minutes, but the aftermath will long be felt.



JONATHAN finished his work standing for MIGUEL. PIO CIAMPA visited. DAN KENNEY continues his work on his project for alcohol-rehabilitation, and has worked night and day at the Basilica in the aftermath of the bomb and the 20th anniversary of Mzee Kenyatta's death. FRANCIS also helped with some bomb victims. A calm and safe September to all is very much our wish from bomb-affected Nairobi.

*Charlie Murphy, S.J.*

## BACK AGAIN

The long vacation is over. Even our elder brother MARCEL GAREAU, who normally stays behind to keep the latest of the incoming archive material, was out to Nyahururu to assist in the personally-guided retreat of the Hekima College scholastics. KAPUTI MATTHEW was long gone to his home country Zimbabwe. He came back in good shape and in good health, maybe a little heavier for our cars! WABWIRE JAMES had cleaned his boots for refugees in Adjumani, in Northern Uganda, but his dream was short-lived. He and others with whom he had gone had to flee for their lives due to the advancing rebels in the area. Or would you rather have dared to remember St. Ignatius' spirit of

indifference to life or death? Nevertheless, he captured his moments of fun here in Nairobi with J.R.S.

I presume you all know USCA in Nyakahoja (Mwanza), perhaps more than its founder Brother Msele. OCHIENG GEORGE heard about it and felt that he had the vitality to dance the Sukuma traditional rhythms, thus immersing himself into the USCA spirit in the SCC.

Mwalimu PEDO could not settle with his adverbial and adjectival phrases anywhere better than in Dar's Loyola High, where he spent a better portion of his vacation. The other day, he systematically began to spoil our evening when he provoked WABWIRE into a discussion on a section of linguistics. "Leave the velum, consider the trill structure and the transverse dimension, bilabial and labial, then the pharyngeal in contrast to the laryngeal, and then we move to dentiveolar". That was the evening I discovered KARUMBA can be a light-weight boxer, from the way his eyes were focused in protest. Otherwise, outside the College, KARUMBA loves computer gymnastics. No wonder he went to Kangemi after the "summer classes".

This season, the farming around our compound has significantly deteriorated. Not because of El Niño,

and neither are the gods unhappy with us. JONATHAN, the farmer, was contracted to the Provincial Offices, acting as Socius and at times acting as both Provincial and Socius. Availability for Magis !

At Radio Kwizera I had a great opportunity to learn many radio operations, ranging from making a programme to reading news. Besides, I witnessed the great works of the Jesuits in diaspora there, namely OMONDI MARC OPONGO and JOHN GUINEY. Although Fr. GUINEY lives at Kakonko, a two-and-a-half-hour drive from Ngara, he regularly visited us and kept a daily communication through radio calls. OMONDI has since left for Hekima College. Confidentially, may I whisper to you that OMONDI's send-off was historic. All the NGO heads in operation there, the DC and other senior Government officials and private executives, attended the send-off party.

Like any other Christian, my spiritual capital was running out, so I had to refill it. I ended up at Asumbi where Fr. GEORGE AIKARA is the chaplain. Fr. AIKARA is not just a good Jesuit, but also a very humorous homilist.

Our choir from Kangemi visited Nyamagwa Parish and Kisii

Cathedral in the Kisii diocese, thanks to the support of Fr. EDMUND MALLYA and his Parish Council. The choir enkindled the spirit of worship, especially through singing, of hundreds of those who listened to them and those who heard about them.

Scholastic GURUMOMBE

EMMANUEL, from Zimbabwe, is a new member of our community. He is studying for an M.A. in Philosophy at CUEA. Karibu sana -

Most welcome - GURUMOMBE !

*Elias Mokuu, S.J.*

#### HOW WE SAW THE BOMB BLAST IN BUSTLING NAIROBI ON THE 7th AUGUST

It is sad that even as new life is created, more life is pointlessly tossed to the winds. The recent events with the bombing in Nairobi have left us with many questions and even fewer answers. Hundreds of lives have been cruelly lost, and hundreds of people have been hopelessly maimed and scarred for life, especially in a country where plastic surgery still holds much of its novelty, and others have yet to overcome the psychological effects of the tragic incident. The terror, with bloody

scenes replayed over and over on television, fear that tall buildings might collapse, even possible fear of the streets in general, has affected so many. There has been the pain of losing loved ones, and the anguish of watching others struggle for their lives in intensive care. Parents have been waiting and hoping that the one more survivor to be extracted from the rubble of charred stone and wood may be their own missing child. Our prayer now is for peace and consolation, and for the nightmare to shift to the past; and that from it hope may emerge. A Disaster Fund has been created to assist the victims of the bomb blast.

For Nairobians a bomb exploding in the heart of the city is something we thought came from the movies. We are yet to come to terms with such a horrific incident. So far 253 people have been confirmed dead. Hundreds are still in hospitals, some in critical condition. Over 5,000 people have been wounded. Terror, fear and dismay are evident on people's faces even as they walk on the streets. Here is a nation in mourning. Our prayer now is for peace and consolation; that hope may emerge as we reconstruct our lives and our city. The Holy Family Basilica was also affected, though not as badly as other buildings - a few broken glasses. A few people who were in the vicinity of the

Basilica were slightly injured by the flying glass, but none seriously. Of course we have lost a good number of our parishioners. We have been having many memorial services at the Holy Family Basilica and at Uhuru Park. The bomb blast has brought people to pray together.

Two of our young friends, Caroline and Karen, lost their mother Ann in the blast. Ann was the headmistress of a Secretarial College. Her body was found after six days. No one was allowed to see it as it was badly smashed. In some tribes crying is considered as a sign of weakness, hence the two girls, aged 15 and 12, are putting up a gallant face amidst pain and loss. Ann's Memorial was on Friday the 21st.

*Fr. Francis Rodrigues, S.J.  
and his Accounts Staff*

#### A LIGHT EXTINGUISHED

On August 25, 1998, William Fortes, still in his prime years, silently slipped away from our lives. The Fortes have been close friends, benefactors and associates of the Jesuit communities in Mwanza and Arusha. They were always helpful and available to priests and religious, and Fr. ALOYSIUS D'SOUZA, S.J.