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Formation of the Province of Vietnam



By: Minh Trieu, C.M.

On Thursday, February 8, 2018, the Congregation of Mission celebrated the Eucharist on the occasion of the establishment of the New Province of Vietnam. This celebration was held in the Church of the Sacred Heart in Dalat.

At that time, the Congregation welcomed the Bishops of the Diocese of Dalat: Bishop Antoine Vu Huyen and his auxiliary, Dominic Nguyen Van Manh. Also present were, Bishop John Do Van Ngan, Auxiliary Bishop of the Diocese of Xuan Loc and Bishop Joseph Nguyen Van Yen, former bishop of Phat Diem.

On this occasion, the Province of Vietnam welcomed Rev. Father Tomaž Mavrič, Superior General (this was his first visit to Vietnam since his election in 2016). Traveling with Father Tomaž were Father Mathew Kallammakal, Assistant General and Father Giuseppe Maria Turati, Secretary General.

Visitors and Superiors from other Vincentian Provinces also participated: Father Christian Mauvais, Visitor of the French Province, who was accompanied by other confreres from France. Father Michael Nguyen Manh, Provincial Representative of the Eastern Province of the United States; Father Gregorio Bañaga Labus, Visitor of the Philippines; Father Tomichan Mattathiveliyil, Visitor of Southern India; Father Ferdinand Labitag, Visitor of China-Taiwan; Father Jasso Jaroslav, Visitor of Slovakia; Father M. Edi Prasetyo, Visitor of Indonesia; Father Joseph Pham Minh, Provincial Representative of the Western Province of the United States; Father Marcelo Manimtim Victorio, President of Adamson University

in the Philippines and members of various Provincial Councils.

Many religious, especially members of the various branches of the Vincentian Family in Vietnam, benefactors, relatives, as well as members of various Vincentian parishes participated in the Eucharist and shared in the joy of this community celebration. Over one hundred twenty diocesan priests concelebrated the Eucharist.

The Eucharist began with joyful music that was led by the seminarists. To express our unity as Church, the various parts of the Eucharist were sung in Latin. During his homily, Father Mavrič reviewed the history of the Congregation in this country, recalling the footsteps of those first missionaries who arrived in our country in 1928. We were reminded of the process that was undertaken in order to arrive at this present moment in our history. Father also touched upon some of the themes that he spoke about in his letter that was addressed to all the members of the Vincentian Family on the occasion of the closing of the Jubilee Year. At the same time, he highlighted some of the realities that should fill us with gratitude. First, our rich vocational heritage ... at the present time we number 74 priests, 9 deacons, 2 brothers, 154 students in various stages of formation (54 seminarians, 21 novices, 50 students in philosophy and 24 postulants). Second, our ministry as members of the Congregation is focused on the poor men and women in the rural areas of the country and on the members of ethnic minorities throughout Vietnam.

Before the conclusion of the Eucharist, Father Augustine Nguyen Huu Gia, CM, the former vice-visitor thanked the Bishops, the Superior General, the members of the Curia and all those in attendance for their participation in this event.



General and liaison of the General Curia to the Visitors of the Asia-Pacific Region (APVC), congratulated the new Province and the new Provincial. He was followed by Father Victorio Marcelo, CM, President of Adamson University in the Philippines who also congratulated the members of the new province and promised to help Vietnam with their formation needs. Then, Father Christian Marie Aimé Mauvais, CM, Visitor of the Province of France, which was the mother province of Vietnam, extended his congratulations to the members of the new Province. After all of this, the new Provincial, in the name of all the members, thanked everyone for their participation in this memorable celebration.

Edited by:

Charles T. Plock, CM
Eastern Province, USA

Then, Father Mathew Kallammakal, CM, Assistant

Visit of the Superior General in Kosovo and Albania



By: Giuseppe Carulli CM

Accompanied by Father Giuseppe Carulli, Superior of the General Curia House, and Father Nicola Albanesi, Visitor of Italy, Father Tomaž Mavrič visited the Vincentian mission of Kosovo and Albania from 30 January to 3 February.

The visit's first stop was the city of Pristina, the capital of Kosovo, where, welcomed by the Daughters of

Charity, he celebrated Mass in the Cathedral with the bishop of the city and a church full of young university students, as well as many young people from the Kosovo JMV and Daughters of Charity. Late in the evening, the Superioress General of the Daughters of Charity, Sister Kathleen Appler, also reached Kosovo, accompanied by the General Councillor, Sister Hanna Cybula.

On Wednesday, 31 January, Father Tomaž and Sister Kathleen met all the Daughters of Charity present in the six communities of Kosovo for a moment of formation in Peje (Peć), a city dear to us Vincentians for the events of the Vincentian missionary and Servant of God, Janez Gnidovec (for more information read http://www.gnidovec.si/l_italy.htm).

The following day, they all reached Rrëshen in Albania, the first place touched by the Vincentian missionaries' presence in 1993, after the fall of the Communist regime (1991) and where the Daughters of Charity currently work. After a brief visit to the Vincentian works and greeting the bishop, they continued to Scutari (Shkodër or Shkodra) where they visited the Martyrs' Museum. This is the place where many Christians were imprisoned and tortured, including the 38 martyrs beatified by Pope Francis in 2016. The diocesan bishop greeted them there. In the afternoon, there was a formation meeting with the Daughters of Charity who work in their five houses of Albania.

Friday, 2 February, Feast of the Presentation of Jesus in the Temple, as every year, the Superiores General met with Fr. Tomaž for the presentation of the request for the Renovation of Vows of the Daughters of Charity. In the afternoon, there was a big party with

the whole Vincentian Family of Albania in the parish of the Vincentian missionaries in Gruda e Re (Scutari). It began with the Eucharistic celebration and ended with a festive moment in which the many young people of JMV presented traditional songs and dances, videos, and testimonies of their action in the Albanian territory.

Saturday morning, after briefly greeting the Apostolic Nuncio in Tirana, the Superior General returned to Paris, while Father Tomaž, before leaving for Rome, visited the community of the Daughters of Charity in Durrës, a community that has chosen to live in an apartment, among the people, in one of the many new buildings built near the port.

The young age of the Daughters of Charity and Vincentian Missionaries working in Albania and Kosovo, the widespread presence of the JMV in these two nations, the only group of SSVdP formed uniquely of young people, and the great enthusiasm and fervor that accompanies the Vincentian mission in these lands fill the heart with gratitude to God and with hope for our charism. God bless this wonderful mission!

The Hopes & Promises of the Vice-Province of Cameroon!

By: Zeracristos Yosief, C.M. - Assistant General

The Republic of Cameroon, until the First World War winners will divide it into two (the present francophone and Anglophone), was the colony of Germany. The division was not an even one, the largest section of the present territory of the country (78%) is francophone and the rest (22%) is Anglophone. The French-speaking part obtained its independence in the year 1960 and the British part in 1961. The reunification of the two parts was not an easy one. Many fractures, factions and separatist political movements followed. Only in 1972 came an end to the apparent endless and visceral disputes and negotiations going back and forth. In that year, 1972, the unity of the country was announced and its official name was: THE



S. Nguepi Yannick.

UNITED REPUBLIC OF CAMEROON.

The first president was Ahmadou Ahidjo. The second and, until this date, it is Mr. Paul BIYA, in power for the last 36 years. Cameroon, covers a surface of 475,442 km² with a population circa 23.2 million inhabitants. The dominant religion is Christianity (53%); Catholics & Protestants together. Muslims 22% and the rest Animists 15%.

The Presence of the Congregation of the Mission in Cameroon: our presence in Cameroon dates back to the beginning of the 1980. The first French missionaries to be sent to the Cameroon Mission were: Fr. Paul LIMOUSIN (previously a missionary in Ethiopia, but his mission in Cameroon did not last longer); Fr. Dulucq, Fr. François Brillet, Fr. Hubert Lignée, Fr. Marc Thieffry and, of course, Fr. Elie Delplace. Many of the Cameroonian confreres joined the CM while studying at the university of Yaoundé or soon after their graduation from it. While at the university, a number of them contacted Fr. Hubert. Fr. Hubert left a beautiful memory in these confreres. Fr. Hubert, say a number of them, was an exceptional person, very open, humble, generous and prejudice-free confrere but not necessarily a good formator for he was too good. A well-organized, systematic and perhaps even a little demanding formation will begin with the arrival of Fr Elie Delplace. When he arrived to this mission FR. Elie Delplace was very young. Only thirty-seven years old. He will be elected Visitor of the former Paris-Province while he was director of

our students in Yaoundé. It is quite normal that Elie Delplace's heart would remain in Cameroon. Thanks to all the hard work being done by the former Paris Province, Cameroon became a Region in 2004 and Vice Province on February the 7th, 2016. The first appointed Regional Superior was Fr. Emmanuel Typamm while the first Visitor of the Vice-Province is Fr. Clement Ondoua.

This young vice Province of the CM has a bright future. Where is its future? The human resource: the average age is only 42.9 and it has 49 students at all levels of formation; international character: it embraces six francophone African countries in its womb; an admirable courage to be with and work for the poor: a number of confreres work in the inaccessible forests or in a very poor parishes and missions like Belita II (Batuori), Nyamfendé-Kribi and Bognangone. This gives hope and energy for the future of this vice province. In addition to this there is a very strongly growing awareness of the Vincentian Identity and the sense of belonging to the CM. In Cameroon our Vincentian Charism seems to be at home. Thanks to God, we are blessed with some young confreres, who speak fluently French and English, very intelligent, dynamic, deep down, and at the same time simple and hard workers. All these factors make the future of this young vice province a bright one not only for Cameroon but for the entire Congregation of the Mission.



The Colors of Charity: Iconography of Saint Vincent



By: Erminio Antonello, C.M.

The beauty of art: a way to tell the story of the Vincentian charism

The story of our Vincentian charism (which last year was celebrated in a very significant manner since it marked the 400th anniversary of its origin) can be told not only through conferences and other specialized studies but can also be told by exploring the different works of art which depict our Founder. Such an exploration provided us with an opportunity to engage in a rather complete study of the Vincentian iconography in Italy (between the seventeenth century and the twentieth century). Thus, in the school of Alberoni de Piacenza, an exhibition entitled *The colors of charity*, took place between December 15, 2017 – February 25, 2018.

The exhibition was held in the Hall of Tapestries which was painted red, thus creating the impression that the visitors were entering into the heart of Saint Vincent's charity. In fact, the exhibits were arranged in the form of two inverted U's which were then interlaced with each other from the inside ... thus creating two large compartments which represented two chambers of the heart. Large round altarpieces (focused on the Vincentian charism) were placed on the walls.

The first area was dedicated to the theme of Vincent's preaching. There one was able to contemplate the

beatification (1729) by Aureliano Milani; a piece from the Galleria Corsini de Giacomo Zoboli that was done at the time of Vincent's canonization (1737), a piece by Giuseppe Antonio Petrini (1748-1750), another by Vittorio Amedeo Rapous (1776). The second area was dedicated to the friendship between Vincent and Francis de Sales and there one could view pieces by Sebastino Conca, the vision of the three globes (1751) and by Francesco Vellani, a piece in which Francis is offering Vincent the place of superior in the Visitation Monastery in Paris.

The next area was focused on the theme of charity and there one saw a large canvas by the artist Giovanni Carobbio which depicts Vincent sending forth the first missionaries and, in the background, two Daughters of Charity can be seen caring for a sick person. On the outer walls were placed paintings that depicted: the establishment of the Congregation with the presence of Madame de Gondi and another by Antonio and Ubaldo Ricci where Vincent is pictured instructing the Daughters and the Ladies of Charity about using money for the poor. The most valued painting was that of Mauro Conconi which was discovered in the Chamber of Deputies in Rome ... the Academy of Fine Arts in Bologna presented Mauro with the first prize for this artistic work (1841), a canvas that depicts Vincent exhorting the Ladies of Charity in Paris to take up the work of the foundlings.

Two other rooms were also used for this exhibition and one room contained five portraits of St. Vincent (these five were selected from among the more than 200 that have been exhibited throughout Italy. Among these were the paintings by Adeodato Malatesta and another by Alessandro Calvi. In the same room were four large ovals painted by Michele Antonio Milocco on the occasion of Vincent's beatification and another by Guglielmo De Sanctis which depicts Vincent instructing the participants in a Tuesday Conference (present for that conference were Cardinal Richelieu and Cardinal Mazarin). Pope Pius IX, wishing to thank the Congregation for their ministry on behalf of the clergy, gifted the missionaries in Rome with this painting.

In the other room was a canvas by Luigi Crespi in which Vincent is seen venerating the Virgin who is enthroned. On the walls to the left was a series of painting by Rodolfo Morgari or Salvatore Monosilio and on the right were originals of Antoine Hérisset that were done at the time of Vincent's beatification (these became the vehicle that was used to spread devotion to Vincent during an era in which photography did not exist).

In the hallway between the two rooms one could see Vincent's hat, cassock, cape and sandals (these were provided by the House in Turin). Here was also a reproduction of a fresco by Aurelio Galeppini (the illustrator of Tex Willer, the famous Italian cowboy hero).

As one walked through this exhibit one was able to contemplate Vincent through the eyes of many



various Italian artists which translated their feelings of gratitude and inspiration into incredible works of art. Each painting is not simply a reproduction of some event but is a transfiguration of those events, a transfiguration in the form of artistic beauty, a transfiguration that touches the viewers and instills in them a desire to give new life to that charism.

As a result of the catalogue that was prepared for this event, the exhibition will live on into the future. The catalogue contains photos not only of the works that were exhibited but also contains other images of the important works that could be catalogued and photographed. The reproduction of these images is high quality and can therefore be viewed and admired and contemplated by those persons who were unable to view the exhibition in person.

Translated:

Charles T. Plock, CM
Eastern Province, USA



Roadway Ministry in Brazil



By: Eliezer Okonoski, CM - Curitiba Province

In 1976 a missionary initiated a new ministry that involved reaching out to truck drivers and other individuals who travelled the highways in Brazil. This approach has been called, roadway ministry. Father Eliezer Okonoski, CM recalls here the events surrounding the initiation of that ministry and the present state of this ministry of proclaiming the good news to people on the peripheries.

The roadway ministry, as it is known in Brazil, is an organism of the Catholic Church that has been promoted by the Curitiba Province of the Congregation of the Mission. This approach, begun in 1976, has involved travelling the multiple highways in Brazil. This pastoral ministry as it has unfolded in Brazil, is unique in the world. It is recognized by the Brazilian Conference of Bishops as a ministry that provides pastoral care for people who are constantly on the move. Three missionaries travel throughout Brazil and celebrate the Eucharist for the truck drivers at the various gas/rest stations.

The missionaries involved in this ministry are: Father Miguel Staron de Contenda (ordained in 1980 and a member of this team since 1993), Father Germano Nalepa de Campo Margo (ordained in 1979 and a member of the team since 1996) and Father Arno Longo de Campinas del Sul (ordained in 1982 and a member of team since 2012).

These three missionaries travel along the highways that link 24 of the 26 Brazilian states. Their objective to make the Church present as they visit the gas stations and the rest stops that are frequented by the truck drivers and other travelers. Each year they celebrate about 900 Eucharists in the various fuel stops. The team has three vans which serve as chapels ... when the back doors are opened, the altar appears. Each of the vans is equipped with a sound system, microphone, hymnals, etc. and all the services are offered at no cost to the participants.

The administrators of the fuel stops promote the celebration of the Eucharist and each gas station is visited once a year (the visit means that the missionary will remain there for the duration of the day and will celebrate the Eucharist). The following day another gas station is visited (this can involve a trip of 10 to 400 kilometers).

The initiator of this project, Father Marian Litewka, CM was born on August 7th, 1937 in Krakow, Poland and ordained on October 18th, 1961. He was sent to Brazil in 1962. He noticed that there were a large number of trucks that moved along the multiple highways and felt that the Church had to do something for the people who drove these trucks. In 1976 he initiated the roadway ministry and little by little the ministry expanded and was strengthened ... more



highways became included in the ministry which meant more fuel and rest stops were visited. Others joined this ministry, Father José Carlos Chacorowski, CM (presently bishop of Caraguatatuba) who was a member of the team for some eight years. Father Marian retired from this ministry in 2003 but Father Miguel, Germano and Arno have continued this ministry.

During the celebration of the Eucharist, the Missionaries spread devotion to Our Lady of the Highway... Father Marian was given the image of the Virgin at the beginning of his ministry and it was Pope John Paul II who gave him said image (Father Marian had served as an altar boy to the Pope during the time that they were in Krakow). The original image is found in the Church Del Gesu in Rome and was painted some 800 years ago by an unknown artist. This painting was placed on the side of the road that moved out from Rome to the other parts of the country. Travelers became accustomed to pass by this chapel on the side of the road and prayed for Mary's protection during the time of their journey. As time passed, the people referred to her as Our

Lady of the Highway.

For more information with regard to this ministry visit our fanpage: <https://www.facebook.com/pastrodo>

There are also many videos and reports available on the internet, among them:

<https://oglobo.globo.com/brasil/padres-da-pastoral-rodoviaria-levam-fe-para-estradas-9115404>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UPkub-kfxdk>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ARnjow2kfy>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R7WiNfM7-_0

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9H-1tH9BczU>

Translated:
Charles T. Plock, CM
Eastern Province, USA

Visit to the Mission "RWANDA-BURUNDI"



By: Aarón Gutiérrez Nava, CM - Assistant General

In talks with Father Orlando Escobar (current Visitor of the Province of Colombia) about the possibilities of making a visit in the "Rwanda-Burundi" Region to get to know and come together

with the Colombian confreres, we planned the visit to take advantage of two excellent circumstances very close to each other: the priestly ordination of Edouard and Marc, two new confreres from

these mission lands, and the “Regional Encounter.” With the pretext of preparing the ordinations, all the members of the Region met on the four days prior to ordination. It was a beautiful opportunity to meet, dialogue, and share our faith and our Vincentian vocation in an atmosphere of prayer and fraternal living.

Currently, Father Néstor Gómez coordinates the region. With great kindness, he picked us up (Father Orlando and me) in Kigali to take us to NEMBA, birthplace of the missionary activity of the Province of Colombia in African lands. Twenty years ago, the Province took up the region of Rwanda-Burundi on 7 December 1998 by way of Father Juan Ávila CM who, in turn, now completes 20 years of service to the brothers of Rwanda and Burundi. Nemba, like other parts of Rwanda, is a fertile and well-cultivated land (there are no open spaces), which produces different vegetables, fruits, legumes, and tubers. There are also livestock: some cattle, goats, and sheep. In addition, there are pigs in domestic proportions.

We must highlight the importance of something not very common: the Vincentian missionaries of Nemba live and work together with two diocesan priests. In a beautiful testimony of fraternal collaboration, they share not only the services, but even their spirituality at the service of the poor. It seems that this is a widespread practice, because there are also other confreres working together with the diocesan clergy, for example in the refugee camps. This is very much in harmony with our charism and it shows a different way of collaborating in the formation of the clergy and the laity in favor of the poor.

From this beautiful experience, we passed to the community of Kabgayi, but not before briefly greeting the Daughters of Charity in Kigali, who gave us – very generously – their van to continue our trip. The Central House of the Region is in Kabgayi and from there the various services that they have are coordinated:

NAMES	MINISTERIES
Fr. Nestor Gómez	Regional Superior, Director of the DCs of the Central African Province, Adviser to AIC Muhanga, and President of the Vincentian Family in Rwanda. Delegate of the Diocese for Consecrated Life.
Fr. Miguel Martínez	Regional Treasurer, Local Superior, in charge of formation in the Region and Director of the Internal Seminary.
Fr. David Sarmiento	Master of novices of the Brothers of ABIZERAMARIYA and of the Brothers of the Holy Innocents of Bethlehem.
Fr. Ignacio Ninco Díaz	Local treasurer and Director of the propaedeutic.
Fr. Theoneste Zigirinshuti	Formator of the Brothers of ABIZERAMARIYA and of the Brothers of the Holy Innocents of Bethlehem.
Br. Jean Claude Ngirente	Formator of the Brothers of ABIZERAMARIYA and of the Brothers of the Holy Innocents of Bethlehem. Advisor of the SSVP Kinazi.
Fr. Juan Ávila	Pastor of Gitare. Advisor of the Seminary's Pastoral Dimension.
Fr. Innocent Nshimiyimana	Assistant Pastor of Gitare and Advisor of the AMM Kigali.
Fr. Henry Ayirwanda	Chaplain of the Burundian Refugee Camp of Mahama. Delegate of the CM for the Vincentian Family in Rwanda and Animator of SSVP in Rusumo.
Fr. Marcs Gasasira	Local-Regional deputy treasurer and JMV Advisor Mata Gitongat.
Fr. Edouars	Director of Vocation Ministry in the Rwanda-Burundi Region, Regional and local secretary. Supervisor of VSO projects. Advisor to the Friends of Saint Vincent de Paul. In charge of provincial communications.



As we can see, the ministries are very different and demanding, and the pastoral and missionary work of the confreres in this needy region is difficult. The missionary zeal is exemplary in Father David Sarmiento, who, despite his advanced age, continues serving the development of Consecrated Life and the local Church in Rwanda. On the verge of completing 20 years of service, the Province of Colombia shows more than praiseworthy fruits: 13 confreres (11 priests and two brothers) of African origin, five missionaries from the Province of Colombia. The ordination of the two new priests at the hands of Monsignor Smaragde Mbonyintege was beautiful in its songs and in the admirable silence and devotion of the 1000 or perhaps more people who gathered in the Cathedral. For four consecutive hours, songs, intercessions, rites, and

prayers kept us in the presence of God, asking to continue sending vocations to these lands already prepared to live the gospel. Everything is a sign of hope and motivation for many of our missions in the world. The 30 students in different stages of formation, united for the meeting, filled the gathering with joy. Above all, their harmonic singing at all the celebrations set the tone for the journey in the Congregation toward a dynamic and ongoing presence in the local Church.

I could make many and nice comments, if space would allow. I can only thank God for this profound experience full of surprises and living testimonies of the missionary spirit of the Congregation. My most sincere encouragement to the Province of Colombia to continue this unique missionary presence where, without a doubt, the poor need us most.



Vincentian Seminarist Advances Toward Beatification

Slovak Province

The Diocesan Tribunal has completed the first phase of beatification process of the seminarist Ján Havlik. He was a martyr of the twentieth century who lived a holy life, was gifted with words and had a deep Marian devotion. At the same time he was persevering in his prayer and, in fact, loved prayer. In 2013 the Congregation of the Mission began an investigation into his martyrdom.

After four years and eight months of investigation, the Diocesan Tribunal officially concluded the first phrase of the beatification process during a public meeting which took place on February 24th, 2018 in the parish of Saint Vincent de Paul (Bratislava, Ružinov).

Ján Havlik, was a seminarist in the Congregation and was born in Dubovce, Slovakia on February 12, 1928. He completed his secondary education in 1949 in Banska Bystrika. On October 29th, 1951 he, together with other seminarists of the Congregation, was arrested in the city of Nitra. During the next



sixteen months he was tortured by the State Police and was sentenced to ten years in prison. During the time of his imprisonment, Ján was able to distribute religious literature which prolonged his sentence for another year. During that same time he was often interrogated, tortured and placed in solitary confinement. Through all his suffering Ján acted in a most courageous manner. He was brought to the forced labor camp of Rovno Jáchymov where he labored in the uranium mines. The final stage of his imprisonment was done in Valdice. In October 1962 he was released from prison but because of his weakened health that was caused by both physical suffering and psychological stress, he died on December 27th, 1965.

On June 9th, 2013 the diocesan investigation into his martyrdom was begun. After sealing with wax and the official seal of the Office of the Archbishop of Bratislava, the documents concerning the witness of his life, historical records and medical evaluation were sent to the Congregation for the Causes of Saints in the Vatican.

Father Emil Hoffmann, CM, Secretary of the Province of Slovakia and Vice-Postulator of the cause, was sent to the Vatican with the above referenced documentation. He was accompanied by Ms Danka Mikulova, Mayor of Dubovce and MS. Katarína Ondrušová, Assistant to the Mayor of Dubovce.

The Congregation of the Mission now rejoices and the seminarist, Ján becomes a model and an inspiration for those young men and women who desire to live their missionary vocation in service of those people who are poor, thus, following in the footsteps of Saint Vincent de Paul.

Source: <https://www.tkkbs.sk/view.php?cisloclanku=20180224001>

Translated:

Charles T. Plock, CM

Eastern Province, CM



We Cultivate Integration: plants in the Land of Asylum



Elena Grazini - Press Service Office FAMVIN

Launching of an innovative project, resulting from the synergy between the Vincentian Volunteer Groups, the Congregation of the Mission, the Tre Fontane Cooperative Society, the non-profit Linaria Association and some individuals.

Because of the 400 years of the Vincentian charism – recently celebrated with the jubilee that gathered in Rome at the International Symposium to representatives of the numerous Vincentian Family Worldwide – the realization of the project “We cultivate integration: plants in the land of asylum” was possible, thanks to the synergy between the Vincentian Family, the Social Cooperative Society “Tre Fontane,” the non-profit association Linaria and Mrs. Margherita Grasselli. The motto of the Jubilee: “I was a stranger and you welcomed me...” (Mt 25, 35) has in this initiative a concrete example of what it truly means to welcome.

The project consists in the improvement and development of approximately two hectares of uncultivated land, property of the Congregation of the Mission in Rome, in Via dei Capasso 30, in which special botanical varieties will be cultivated, which can respond to a market so far little known, but surely expanding. It will teach usable professional skills of a group of asylum seekers and holders of international

and humanitarian protection, who reside regularly in Rome, with the aim of their social and labor insertion in the city. This initiative that is, at the same time, an experiment which hopes that its evident social, economic and environmental impact, will become a replicable pilot project replicable in other national urban realities.

Photographs courtesy of: Michela Pasquali.



The annual meeting of the Finance committee

The annual meeting of the Finance committee of the Congregation of the Mission was held on the 24th February 2018. The participants were Tom Beck, Fr. Philip Lamblan, Fr. Rafeal Eloriaga Kabigting and Fr. Paul. Mr. Jason from ACG is Asset Consulting Group presented the investment reports. Mr. Michele Mifsud translated the discussions to French.

Fr. Paul Parackal. C.M

Econome General



International Assembly of MISEVI

Fr. Tomaž Mavrič participated in the General Assembly of MISEVI International from February 23 to 25 in Salamanca, Spain. He met MISEVI delegates from the Colombia, El Salvador, Venezuela, Mexico, United States, Spain, Ireland, Poland, Germany, Lebanon, Italy, Slovakia and Brazil. The new International Coordinating Team was elected during the Assembly. It's made of Elias Ribel – president of MISEVI Lebanon, Asunción Marchan of Venezuela, Marta Marin of Colombia, Mary Frances Jaster of the United States and Mónica Villar of Spain. Sr. Neghesti Michael, D.C. from Eritrea became an international adviser. The Coordinating Team is elected for a period of 4 years, from 2018 to 2022.



The International Council of the Vincentian Marian Youth

The Superior General, Fr. Tomaž Marvič, C.M., Director General of the VMY participated in the meeting of the International Council of the Vincentian Marian Youth, from the 19 to the 22 of February in Madrid (Spain). Those present were Yancarlos Carrasco, the International President, the councilors, the International Directors: Fr. Irving Amaro, C.M. and Sr. Bernardita Garcia, D.C. and the volunteer youth of the International Secretariat. We pray and ask the intercession of the Virgin Mary for all the works and projects planned for this coming year of 2018.





General Information

NOMINATIONES / CONFIRMATIONES

AZEVEDO FERNANDES José Luís	22/11/2017	Visitor of Mozambique (Confirmed)
EDI PRASETYO Manuel	08/12/2017 (To start 25/01/2018)	Visitor of Indonesia
YOKA MONGU Bernardin	02/02/2018	Visitor Congo (Confirmed)
BANKO Kryspin	08/02/2018	Visitor Poland (Confirmed)

ORDINATIONES

D'CRUZ Sebastian	Sac	InM	23/11/2017
M. (MICHAELPILLA) Fredy	Sac	InM	02/01/2018
H. (HRIDAYA) Renjith	Sac	InM	03/01/2018
MAESKI Leandro	Sac	Cur	10/02/2018
AYIRWANDA Edouard	Sac	Col	25/02/2018
GASASIRA Marc	Sac	Col	25/02/2018

NECROLOGIUM

Nomen	Cond.	Dies ob.	Prov.	Aet.	Voc.
BEGUE Joseph E.	Sac	09/01/2018	OCC	94	69
PIĄTEK Bolesław	Sac	11/02/2018	POL	86	69
ESTÉVEZ CONDE Antonio	Sac	13/02/2018	COL	84	65
MAULEÓN JIMÉNEZ Francisco	Sac	15/02/2018	CAE	77	61
LOEFFEN Chris	Sac	24/02/2018	CGN (HOL)	83	62