

NUNTIA



JULY 2024

ONLINE MAGAZINE OF THE
CONGREGATION OF THE MISSION

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EDITORIAL

In the Other for others

As we move towards the 4th centenary of the foundation of the Congregation of the Mission, we can ask ourselves: what do we mean by spirituality? It is possible to give an answer, before highlighting the main aspects of 'Vincentian spirituality'. For the Christian, spirituality is 'life according to the Spirit of Jesus'. The Spirit gives the gift of faith in Jesus Christ and teaches the baptised to love like the Nazarene, to commit themselves in the manner of the Master. In fact, the Holy Spirit progressively leads the believer to live the sequela Christi ever more intensely, that is to say, to make his own the lifestyle, the quality of the risen Lord's existence, consistent with the logic of Trinitarian Love. To live according to the Spirit also means to let oneself be worked, inspired and led by the Holy Spirit himself, as Jesus himself indicated to his disciples. This action of the Third Person of the Trinity involves the totality of each baptised person: heart, body, spirit, with his or her own affectivity, psychology, behaviour, relationships? Spirituality, then, is a being in the Other for others.

St Vincent writes that 'When we say: The Spirit of Our Lord is in such and such a person, in such and such an action, what does it mean? Does it mean that the Holy Spirit himself is diffused in them? Yes, the Holy Spirit, in person, is poured out on the righteous and dwells in them through a personal relationship (cf. Rom 5:5; 8:11). When it is said that the Holy Spirit works in someone, it means that the Spirit, by dwelling in that person, endows him with the same inclinations and dispositions that Jesus Christ had on earth, so that he works in the same way, I do not say with equal perfection, but according to the measure of the gifts of the Holy Spirit' (St. Vincent, XII, 108).

Spirituality is life according to the Spirit: it means that it is a person's particular way of being rooted in God, it is the specific way of relating to the world. We can therefore think of Vincentian spirituality as a great architectural organism:

1. the foundations: structure that stands between the ground and the supporting structure in elevation;
 2. the footings: a strong vertical structure with a supporting function;
 3. the arches: curved structural elements resting on the pillars;
 4. the stones: essential elements resting on the pillars.
4. stones: essential elements that form the shape of a building.

In this month of July, we focus on the foundations, which are the Trinitarian relationship. In Vincent's conferences we find references to the mystery of the Trinity, a mystery that should inspire and illuminate the life of the Vincentian Missionaries and the Daughters of Charity. The union of the divine Persons must animate the life of the communities of the Missionaries and the Daughters of Charity. It invites to union according to the Trinitarian life which is communion (St. Vincent, IX, 53). The foundation of the unity of life, in fact, is indicated in the model of the Church of Jerusalem and is inspired by the koinonia evoked then, in the multitude of believers... (Acts 4, 32). The unity of the Jerusalem community, one heart and one soul, is the visible fruit of the action of the Holy Spirit, given to the disciples on the day of Pentecost. The life and action of the community are rooted in the Trinitarian mystery in order to bear witness to the beautiful Face of the Triune God manifested in the relationship of the differences of the divine Persons (cf. Constitutions CM 20; Constitutions FdC, 32a).

Rooted in the Trinity, with one heart, on the way to our neighbour.

Fr. Salvatore Fari CM

Virtual tour of Folleville

Dear confreres, the bus has arrived in Folleville. We got off the bus a bit warmly, because normally this place is a bit cold. It is a small rural village, 15 kilometres from Gannes. Its current population is about 150 inhabitants.

We know that Vincent de Paul lived in Folleville as tutor to Gondi's children from 1615 to 1617. One of Gondi's sons, Jean-François-Paul, became cardinal of Retz. He was not evil, but rather earthly.

Why is this place important for the Vincentians? Because the 'first missionary sermon' was preached here. Vincent had been holding missions in this area since 1615, but that sermon, delivered on a Wednesday during the mission of 1617, remained etched in his mind as the starting point of a life dedicated to the service of the poor and the future creation of the Congregation of the Mission. It was 25 January, the day of St Paul's conversion. His homily that day was delivered after Mass. He spoke from the pulpit of the need for a general confession. 1. The religious ignorance of the Christian people. 2. The lack of dedicated clergy. The lack of dedicated clergy for ministerial and sacramental work with the poor. 3. 3. That many of the clergy were poorly trained.

Her option for the poor began as a personal project, which Providence itself guided her to turn into a group project: first the laity, then the brothers and priests, and finally the sisters.

The experience of Madame de Gondi was also fundamental. The parish priest who lived in Folleville had been there for at least 15 years. When she went to confession, she discovered that he did not even know the formula of absolution (which says a lot!). He began to worry about his confessions and about the people who were dying without going to confession properly. He asked his spiritual director in Amiens for the formula of absolution and, wherever he went to confession, he gave it to the priest to pronounce it.

Moving forward in time, we see that the members of the Congregation of the Mission continued with some presences in Folleville. In 1770, there was a missionary team. From the 19th century, it became a privileged place of pilgrimage for the Vincentian family. They contributed to the restoration of the church. Today, practically all the branches of the Vincentian family make pilgrimages here.

The Lazarists took over the parish in 1869. The Daughters of Charity built and ran an orphanage. After the First World War, the orphanage was closed and the Sisters left. Another work was established: a Centre for the formation of the Brothers of the Congregation of the Mission. The former castle of Gondi was used. In 1926 it was bought by the CM for the formation of the Brothers. We Vincentians have done much to preserve it. A large statue of St Vincent still stands above the main entrance of the building. But the building was not functional, nor was the place. So it was sold in 1965. Since 1988, a local association has been trying to preserve and improve it.

WHAT TO SEE IN FOLLEVILLE? THE CASTLE. It dates back to the 11th century. It was restored in the 14th century. It has a dry moat with a drawbridge. The tower is the most visible part. The family had rooms on the upper floors. The room in the tower on the right was traditionally reserved for the priest, so it is possible that Vincent de Paul occupied this place.

THE CHURCH OF SANTIAGO EL MAYOR AND SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST. Let's take a look inside: the presbytery was for the family and the nave for the people. The nave was dedicated to Santiago el Mayor. It bears this name because this church was on the medieval route to Santiago de Compostela,

in Spain. A modern sign next to the door reminds us of this. The roof of the nave is made of oak. The confessional is from the 17th century, the one used by St Vincent when he preached at the mission in 1617. The paintings on the walls reproduce the paintings made for the beatification of Monsieur Vincent. The oak pulpit is in the same place where Vincent de Paul preached, but is somewhat later, dating from 1620. It was restored in 1868 thanks to funds from the Congregation of the Mission.

The presbytery is dedicated to Saint John the Baptist. The tombs of the Lords of Folleville are there. What else can we find there? A Pieta, Saints Anthony, Sebastian and Adrian. Also the decapitation of the Baptist. Upstairs, we find the Coronation of the Virgin.

There is a small chapel dedicated to Saint Vincent de Paul. It dates from 1899 and is in the neo-Gothic style. There are images of Saint Vincent and Saint Louise. There are also figures representing the four cardinal virtues. The windows of the chapel date from 1869. At the top are these words: meekness, humility, zeal, mortification, religion. Then, in Latin, two titles for Vincent de Paul: father of the clergy and father of the poor. I describe this triptych from left to right. Each window is in turn divided into two: 1. Vincent hearing the confession of the dying miller of Gannes. Below are the emblem and motto of the Congregation of the Mission. Its text: 'On 25 January 1617, St Vincent plans to establish the priests of the Mission. 2. The conversion of St Paul. Below, Vincent preaching in Folleville. Below, Cardinal de Retz, Archbishop of Paris, with the text: 'The Cardinal Archbishop of Paris approves the Congregation of the Mission. Vincenzo instructing the sons of Gondi. Underneath is Urban VIII, with the text: 'On 15 March 1655, Pope Urban VIII approves the institution of the priests of the Mission'.

After lunch, the bus is waiting to take us to Châtillon. But we will see it next month.



Fr. Tomaž Mavrič, CM, in the Philippines.

Fr Tomaž Mavrič, CM, Superior General of the Congregation of the Mission, recently visited the Philippines, bringing inspiration and encouragement to many. Here is a summary of the main events of his visit from 21-29 July 2024:

Arrival and reception

Fr Tomaž arrived in the Philippines on 21 July and was warmly welcomed by the Daughters of Charity (DC) at their provincial house. That evening, he shared a meal with the members of the Vincentian Marian Youth (VMY) International Team and the National Board of the CoM-JMV Philippines after the conclusion of the 3-day VMY Philippines National Summer Camp held at Concordia College. His presence greatly inspired the young VMY members.

VMY International Council Meeting

From 22-26 July, Fr Tomaž attended the annual meeting of the VMY International Council, the main purpose of his visit. This meeting brought together members of the International Council and the VMY Secretariat from various countries to discuss important aspects of the VMY Association worldwide, including the planning of international events and expansion projects. Each day of the meeting began with a morning Eucharistic celebration, which was joined by participants and communities at the provincial house in Washington.

Agape Programme: Meeting with the Daughters of Charity

On the afternoon of 26 July, Fr Tomaž participated in the Agape Programme organised by the Provincial House in Washington, where he had a brief moment of meeting and sharing with the Daughters of Charity of the Province of Louise de Marillac - Asia. He expressed his gratitude for their dedicated service and encouraged them to continue to support the VMY Association in the province.

Visit and Blessing of the VMY and AMM International Offices

On the morning of July 27th, after a warm welcome by the parishioners of the National Shrine of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal, Fr. Tomaž visited the VMY International Secretariat and officially blessed the new International Office of the Association of the Miraculous Medal (AMM), consecrating it to Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal. Both Marian offices are located in the Marian Centre building. On this occasion, Fr Tomaž also blessed the new CM community chapel inside the building.



Groundbreaking ceremony for Adamson University.

Later in the afternoon, Fr Tomaž participated in the groundbreaking ceremony for a new building at Adamson University, an important step in the university's efforts to improve its facilities and infrastructure, coinciding with the 400th anniversary of the founding of the Congregation of the Mission. Fr Tomaž, together with Provincial Visitor CM-Philippines Fr Peter Solis, CM, and the Mayor of Manila, Honey Lacuna-Pangan, celebrated the occasion.

400th Anniversary of the Congregation of the Mission and meeting with the Vincentian Family
On the evening of 27 July, Fr. Tomaž met with various branches of the Filipino Vincentian Family for an evening mass, where he acted as main celebrant and delivered the homily. During this Mass, Fr Tomaž, together with Fr Peter Solis, CM, formally inaugurated the celebration of the 400th anniversary of the foundation of the Congregation of the Mission. After Mass, Fr. Tomaž continued to share his inspiring message with the Vincentian Family during a cozy dinner on the campus of Adamson University.

On 28 July, Fr Tomaž visited the CM Provincial House in Tandang Sora, where he celebrated the Eucharist with the CM confreres. The mass was followed by the blessing of a newly built extension of the Vincentian Mission House, a project initiated by the local superior, Fr Frank Vargas, CM.

Inspiration until the last minute

On July 29, before his departure for Italy, Fr. Tomaž spent his last moments in the Philippines with members of the AMM International Secretariat. During this time, he closely discussed the new structure of the AMM International Office, a hopeful beginning to the dream of continuing to spread the message of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal to all nations. After the meeting with the members of the AMM International Secretariat, Fr Tomaž left for the airport to return to Italy to prepare for his next apostolic visits.

We express our deepest gratitude to Fr Tomaž for his selfless dedication and unwavering devotion. His visit was an inspiration to us all and we wish him a safe and pleasant journey. May God bless him and may Mother Mary of the Miraculous Medal accompany him in his mission of evangelisation in the footsteps of St. Vincent de Paul.

O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to You.

Joseph Cong Thanh, CM



Rome, Meeting of New Visitors

From 1 to 11 July 2024, the meeting of the new Visitors of the Congregation of the Mission, elected in the last two years, was held in Rome at the Casa Maria Immacolata.

Among the objectives of the meeting were: to orient the Visitors to their leadership role in their respective provinces, to share with the other Visitors their own joys and hopes, but also their concerns and problems, and to familiarise themselves with the Congregation in the different geographical territories.

It is always an enriching experience that goes from getting to know one another, to getting to know the Provinces, to sharing current issues for the journey of the Church, of the Congregation, of the Society. Various topics were discussed: the Visitor in the synodal journey, the Visitor and the exercise of authority, the Visitor as animator of the Province.

In this time of synodal journey, as we prepare for the 400th anniversary of the foundation of the Congregation of the Mission, some challenges have been identified:

Revitalising our missionary identity by 'returning to the Gospel' and overcoming the deficit of spirituality.

To live the experience of fraternity that sees us involved in a journey of communion and participation.



Visit of Fr. Nélio Pita, CM in Brasil

Accompaniment, fraternity and care are typical attitudes of those who love. The Congregation of the Mission in Brazil has experienced these attitudes in the last months (from April to July 2024) by the General Curia of the CM, in the person of its Assistant General, Fr. Nélio Pita, CM, who visited the three Brazilian Provinces: Fortaleza (from 14 April to 3 May), Curitiba (from 27 June to 13 July) and Rio de Janeiro (from 14 to 30 July), and the International Mission of Tefé - Amazonas (from 26 to 29 April).

P. Nélio was in Rio de Janeiro on two occasions. The first, a brief stop in June, when he visited the St. Vincent de Paul School in Nova Iguaçu on the 26th. Accompanied by the PBCM Visitor, Fr Vandeir Barbosa, and the school's director, Fr Eduardo Santos, he visited the facilities, greeted the staff and the community attending the school. He then flew to Curitiba, returning to Rio on 14 July.

P. Nélio went to Campina Verde, visiting the brothers and the works, from 16 to 18 July. There he got to know the city, visited the communities of the Parish of the Sanctuary of the Miraculous Virgin and also the João Anesi Home for the Elderly, an institution under the responsibility of the SSVP, as well as participating in the celebration of the five years of ordination of Fr Hugo Barcelos, in the presence of the following brothers: Fr Fabio José, Fr Alexandre Nahass, Fr Evilásio Amaral, Fr Wandeir Ferreira and Fr Denilson Matias. Denilson Matias. The visit offered rich moments of conviviality and exchange.

On Thursday 18, Fr. Nélio was accompanied to the parish of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal, in Riacho Fundo II, Brasília, where he presided at Mass with adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and perpetual novena to Our Lady. In the afternoon, he participated in a meeting with the local Vincentian Family, attended by the following branches: Daughters of Charity, Congregation of the Mission, Society of St. Vincent de Paul, Vincentian Secular Missionaries and Vincentian Marian Youth. Father Nélio was enthusiastic about the number of Vincentians present in the Brazilian capital, more than six thousand, and happy for the presence of young people, the hope of the Vincentian vocation, to whom he addressed profound words of encouragement. Donizete Dowbroski and the Vicars, Fr. Vanderlei Reis and Fr. Michel Araújo, who spoke about themselves and also heard about the life and mission of the Assistant.

He then went to the secretariat, where he met with the parish staff. In the afternoon, he visited the Pilot Plan, something like the 'old town' of the city; and in the evening, he celebrated mass, a meeting and a cocktail with the pastoral and administrative councils of the parish, which has about 800 leaders and more than 1,500 people in catechesis. Father Nélio was enthusiastic about the dynamism and liveliness of the parish and urged it to continue to grow in service, formation and evangelisation of the poor, following the example of St. Vincent de Paul. The visit was excellent and fruitful.

Michel accompanied Fr. Nélio to the Parish and Mission of St. Joseph the Worker in Serra do Ramalho. On Sunday 21st, they participated in a meeting with the young people of the parish. The 22nd was filled with moments of conviviality and also with the visit of the Diocesan Bishop of Bom Jesus da Lapa, who had lunch in the parish house, where there was an important sharing and fraternity. In the afternoon, the members of the community, Fr Raimundo João, parish priest, and Fr Gustavo Alvino, vicar, had a personal conversation with Fr Nélio, and in the evening they celebrated together in a rural community. 'We can say that these were moments of great joy, of sharing and of great hope for our Province', said Raimundo and thanked Fr Nélio and Fr Michel for their presence in his community.

The next stop was the community of Caraça, whose Sanctuary is a centre of spirituality and mission, culture and education, environmental conservation, recreation and tourism, with 11,233 hectares of preserved land; where Fr. Nélio was welcomed by his brothers: Fr. Adalberto Costa, Fr. Gonzaga Morais, Fr. Ramon Aurélio, Fr. Hélio Maia (coadjutor of the Curato Nossa Senhora da Graça) and Fr. Admar Freitas, and stayed there from 23 to 25 July, which, in Fr. Paulo's words: 'although his stay was brief, it was of great importance for the animation of the community'.



Through his simple and fraternal manner and through his closeness, making us feel at ease, we felt we truly belonged to the congregation. I think he also felt at home when he participated in our community events: meetings, celebrations, gatherings and outings. At all times he expressed his enthusiasm for the exuberant beauty of nature and the characteristics of Caraça, thus reinforcing in all of us what this house represents for the Province and for the Congregation. It was truly a moment of blessing for the community'.

On the afternoon of the 25th, Fr. Nélio arrived at the Casa Padre Viçoso, in Belo Horizonte - MG, where he was welcomed by Fr. Sebastião Carvalho, local Superior, with a Mass in which he made reference to Fr. António Ferreira Viçoso, belonging to our Mother Province, Portugal, where the Father Assistant also comes from. At the end of the Mass, Fr. Nélio had dinner with the senior priests, after which he spoke and gave an interview to Fr. Hugo accompanied Fr. Nélio to visit the small church of San Francisco da Pampulha, recognised by UNESCO in 2016 as a Cultural Landscape of Modern Heritage. In the afternoon, Fr Nélio visited and fraternised with the Internal Seminary, whose director, Fr Francisco Ermelindo, and assistant, Fr Pedro Gotardo. Fr. Nélio also spent time with the students, who are under the care of formators Fr. Denilson Matias and Hugo Barcelos, as well as vocation promoter Fr. On the morning of the 27th, students and confreres from the region of Belo Horizonte took part in a conference on the theme: 'The sense of belonging to the Congregation of the Mission', at the Father Raimundo Gonçalves Social Centre. In the afternoon, Fr. Nélio travelled to Rio de Janeiro.

On the 28th, Fr. Nélio concluded his visit to our province at the Shrine of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal, in Tijuca, Rio de Janeiro, where he celebrated Mass with the priests for the sisters and the community in general, and socialised with his brothers in mission there: Fr. Erik Gonçalves, rector of the shrine, and Fr. Eduardo Santos, Fr. Denilson Matias and Bro. Adriano Ferreira, where he got to know the missionary and administrative reality of the Province and commented on what he had seen and experienced. In the evening of the same day, he met with the Provincial, the councillors and other confreres of the community: Fr. Túlio Medeiros and Bro. Milton Jesus, for a time of fraternisation. Fr. Nélio returned to Europe the following day, 30 July.

The presence, openness and closeness of Fr. Nélio Pita filled our Province with joy, fraternity and hope. The shared moments, the exchange of experiences and the feeling of belonging to a congregation that goes beyond geographical borders were alive throughout Fr. Nélio's stay in Brasiliensis Fluminensis. Thank you for the opportunity to have him among us. We pray that he will continue to do an excellent job in his next trip. And we ask you to convey to the Superior General, Fr Tomaž Mavrič, and to the other councillors our fraternal greetings, our sincere prayers and our grateful hearts.

Fr. Cleber Teodósio CM



Report of the meeting of the Provincial Coordinators of the APVC's People's Mission

From 22-28 July 2024, a meeting of the Interprovincial Coordinators of the People's Mission of the APVC members was held at the Catherine de Labouré Retreat Houses, Puhsarang, Kediri, Indonesia. The participants came from different provinces including: Philippines, Vietnam, Oceania, China, Solomon Islands International Mission, Indonesia and also members of the Vincentian Daughters of Charity family and lay missionaries. The meeting was prepared and organised by the Indonesian Province. The programme of activities included visits to various communities of the Indonesian Province in the midst of education, retreat houses, the major seminary, the minor seminary and the provincial house of DC in Kediri. The meeting was designed with a series of activities: exchange of experiences of Popular Mission from different provinces, lectures by experts in the field of mission theology, in particular mission in Indonesia. Apart from the meeting programme, the participants were taken to a tourist place and enjoyed fellowship, meeting and fellowship at Midodaren Beach, Tulungagung, which is a two-hour drive from the retreat house. In addition, the participants took part in the People's Mission at St. Vincent de Paul Parish in Kediri. They lived in the BEC (Basic Ecclesial Community) and participated in the People's Mission that started from 18 to 28 July 2024. On the last day of the meeting, the participants were invited to engage in a process of reflection, integration and commitment for the next steps of this People's Encounter.

On the first day of the session, there was an exchange of experiences on the activities of Popular Mission in each province, namely Vietnam, Philippines, China, Oceania and Indonesia. In this session, almost all the participants tried to make the activities of the Popular Mission sustainable and to establish cooperation among the members of the Vincentian Family. However, some provinces such as Vietnam and China have difficulties in carrying out the People's Mission due to government restrictions and supervision. However, the spirit and values of the Popular Mission can be integrated into parish ministry, giving priority to evangelisation, formation of lay leaders or missionaries and strengthening of the BEC, as expressed by a confrere from Fiji, a province in Oceania. In addition, popular mission can be a good means of empowering the laity in an increasingly synodal Church, a means of promoting the vocation of the congregation and of helping the diocese or local church to internalise the vision, mission and directives of the diocese.





On the sidelines of the meeting of the coordinator of the People's Mission, the participants were also invited to go on an excursion to the tourist area, Midodaren Beach in Tulungagung. During the reflection, the participants also expressed their feelings during the meeting. One of the participants revealed that People's Mission is not only a ministry, but also a way of life and a lifestyle of a Vincentian missionary. Synodality in the Church happens when lay people become more and more involved and play a role in the ministry. Therefore, Popular Mission meetings should invite more lay Vincentians. The Popular Mission cannot be a secondary ministry for a province, but a primary ministry, because this is the legacy of our founder, St. Vincent de Paul. The presence of a full-time coordinator of Popular Mission in each province in Asia Pacific is necessary.

After the meeting on popular mission of APVC, the participants were sent to different BECs to experience popular mission activities: visiting some families, meeting with lay missionaries in the parish of St. Vincent de Paul, Kediri. After the immersion activities, the participants shared their experiences. Almost all the participants experienced a stirring of the heart due to the hospitality of the people, especially the adoptive parents of the missionaries. In the evaluation, almost all participants felt inspired by this meeting: The Popular Mission is a way of life for a Vincentian, the Popular Mission should strive for its sustainability and increase the participation of lay missionaries in the activities of the Popular Mission. Fr. Laurentius Iswandir CM, our keynote speaker, formulated that the Popular Mission has four perspectives: anthropological perspective (encounter), Christological perspective (rooted in faith in Jesus Christ), ecclesiological perspective (involvement in the mission of the Church), eschatological perspective (mission of zeal for souls). The People's Mission was crowned by a Eucharistic celebration attended by more than 1,000 parishioners of St. Vincent de Paul Kediri and held at the grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes, Puhsarang.

Fr. Antonius Gigih CM, Visitor of Indonesia



St Vincent de Paul in the town of Casagiove

It was with great pleasure that I accepted to present this testimony at the request of the Communication Organ of the CM.

I arrived at the parish of San Michele Arcangelo in Casagiove with the blessing of the parish priest, Father Stefano, and what struck me most were the images of St. Vincent de Paul in the street and on the parish posters. I was told that July is the month in which St. Vincent de Paul, the second patron saint of the parish, is honoured in a special and spectacular way, with a calendar full of various activities to demonstrate the great devotion to St. Vincent de Paul. We must stress at once that this devotion is the fruit of the Vincentian Missionaries who came from Naples to evangelise, and have been doing so since 1795! As a Vincentian and a privileged witness of this year's activities, I can speak for myself. I witnessed a total demonstration of devotion to St. Vincent de Paul. From the spiritual point of view, every day a prayer dedicated to St. Vincent de Paul was recited before morning and evening Mass, followed by Lauds or Vespers. To prepare God's people spiritually to celebrate this popular feast with dignity, daily confessions were organised in the Church and the sick and elderly were visited in their flats to receive the sacraments: confession and communion. I can testify that I was impressed by the warm welcome we received from these sick and elderly people. By their welcome and their joy, they evangelised us! On July 19th, the great feast of St. Vincent de Paul, the mass was celebrated by Father Valerio DI TRAPANI, Visitor of the Lazarists of the Province of Italy. Without mentioning all the activities organised, we would like to highlight the great moment of the procession of the statue of St. Vincent de Paul in two stages: in the morning and in the afternoon: a public and spectacular procession! I chose the evening procession, which started at 18.00 and ended after midnight!

In addition to this festive effervescence, I wanted to understand how charity is organised in this parish. Here are some of the activities that make the Vincentian charism concrete, bringing St. Vincent de Paul into the present day:

- Centro de Vida: a food bank. Every month food is distributed to needy families.
- St. Vincent de Paul House to distribute clothes free of charge.
- Centre for helping families to solve their problems.
- Emmaus Centre to provide a daily meal to those in need.
- Ambulance to provide emergency assistance to the sick.
- A free laundry centre.
- St. Vincent de Paul Bank, which collaborates with the parish to help people with money every month, free of charge.

This information confirms the existence of a great devotion to St. Vincent de Paul. In fact, all devotion must follow two verifiable principles: firstly, prayer to the Saint and knowledge of his charism, and secondly, imitation of these values. We congratulate the parish priest, Don Stefano, all the Christians and the many collaborators and benefactors. May the Spirit of the Lord continue to inspire them to do more, in the dynamism of the inventiveness of love.

Personally, my stay in this parish allowed me not only to admire its devotion to St Vincent de Paul, but also to pray for CM for its 400 years of existence and for our dear Province of Congo, which is preparing to celebrate the centenary of the Vincentian presence (CM and Fdlc) in the DRC.

Long live St. Vincent de Paul!
Long live the Vincentian charism!

Fr. Bernardin Yoka Mongu, CM



From the General Secretariat

NOMINATIONES

FARATSELY Gaston	15/07/2024	Visitor Madagascar (Reconfirmed)
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ORDINATIONES

BAYIHA Joseph Emmanuel	Sac	CAM	29/06/2024
ENONSOUME ETOUKE Brice	Sac	CAM	29/06/2024
NNA Jesus Marie	Sac	CAM	29/06/2024
CHAVES DEJOY Mario Fernando	Sac	COL	06/07/2024
BUSTAMANTE CAICEDO Juan Sebastián	Sac	COL	06/07/2024
SARRAZOLA GARCÍA Yeison Estiven	Sac	COL	06/07/2024
TRIVIÑO FORERO Diego Andrés	Sac	COL	06/07/2024
NZABANITA Epimaque	Sac	COL	13/07/2024
BAGGA Boris Igor Bienheureux	Sac	CAM	14/07/2024

NECROLOGIUM

Nomen	Cond.	Dies ob.	Prov.	Aet.	Voc.
MROWKA Chester	Sac	05/07/2024	NAN	97	73
PONSARD Bertrand	Sac	06/07/2024	FRA	64	38
HENEL Alojzy	Sac	12/07/2024	POL	90	71
USÓN CASADO Pablo	Sac	14/07/2024	COL	92	76
KIEKEN Noël	Sac	16/07/2024	FRA	77	57
AGUIRRE ROJAS Ronald Arturo	Sac	31/07/2024	PER	53	28

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