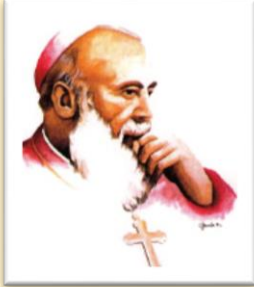


Mission Letter



A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER FROM THE MISSIONARIES OF AFRICA (WHITE FATHERS)

September 2024

Charles Lavigerie, Founder of the White Fathers, 1884

*“Every Christian is called to be a missionary and witness to Christ.
And the Church, the community of Christ’s disciples, has no other mission
than that of bringing the Gospel to the entire world by bearing witness to Christ.
To evangelise is the very identity of the Church.” (Pope Francis)*

A CHANGE OF PROVINCIAL SUPERIOR



After six years as Provincial Superior of the Society of Missionaries of Africa, **Fr. Real Doucet**, completed his mandate. Many of you know him from his Christmas messages written for this newsletter. We thank him for his years of dedicated service to our Society, especially in the Province of the Americas (Canada, USA and Mexico). He has been appointed to our formation centre in Arusha, Tanzania, where he has much to offer.



We welcome **Fr. Barthélemy Bazemo**, as our new Provincial Superior. Born in the Ivory Coast in Africa but raised in Burkina Faso, he has worked in Tanzania and Kenya. He will be based in our community in Washington, USA where he is involved in the Africa Faith and Justice Network. His long-standing commitment and leadership within the Society of Missionaries of Africa promise continued growth and innovation for the Province of the Americas. We thank him for accepting this new responsibility.

***"I entrust you to the Lord, through the intercession
of the Virgin Mary, Our Lady of Africa," (Pope Francis to the Society of
Missionaries of Africa on the 150th Anniversary of their foundation)***

A CHANGE OF DELEGATE SUPERIOR



Fr. Armand Galay, originating from the Philippines, completed his appointment as Delegate Superior in Canada. As the Delegate Superior, he was a member of the Provincial Council of the Province of the Americas. He will continue to live in our community in Toronto, carrying out his ministry in parishes and with different groups within the Archdiocese of Toronto and beyond. We thank Fr. Armand for his dedication and wish him success in his ministry.

Fr. Paul Johnston is our newly elected Delegate Superior for Canada and will reside in our community in Toronto. Born in Belfast, Northern Ireland, he grew up in Canada. Most of his missionary life has been as a formator of our candidates in Africa, the Philippines, and India. As our Delegate Superior, he will also be a member of our Provincial Council. We wish him well as he undertakes this new responsibility within our Society and the Province of the Americas.



ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES



For almost 10 years, **Fr. Michel Merizzi** has been a member of our community in Toronto, where he has been involved in pastoral ministry in different parishes within the Archdiocese of Toronto. In June 2024, he celebrated 60 years of his Missionary Oath. At the beginning of September, he joined our community in Montreal. We thank Fr. Mike for his presence, wisdom, and stability in our community in Toronto and wish him well as he opens a new chapter in his missionary life.

We welcome **Fr. Jean-Bosco Ntihebuwayo** to our Province and our community in Toronto. Born in Burundi, he has served in different capacities and ministries in Ghana and Burundi. He arrived in Canada at the end of June 2024 and, as a member of our community in Toronto, he is involved in the pastoral ministry to parishes within the Archdiocese of Toronto. We thank him for accepting this new challenge in a new country and pray he has a fruitful ministry.



Our Lady of Africa...pray for us!