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NYAMILIMA

MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERIOR GENERAL



Very Reverend Teodoro Kalaw, CRM

Dear Friends

I am very happy to present you with the first English edition of Nyamilima, which is the Adorno Fathers Mission Newsletter.

Our former General, Father Raffaele Mandolesi, CRM , is presently in charge of the publication of the Nyamilima Newsletter in Italian.

This newsletter was originally published in 1989 and proved to be a successful means of communication for gaining support and raising awareness of our missions in Italy. Being aware of this, I mentioned to Father Raffaele that we should also publish this in English. He noted that this has always been his dream. By the grace of God, his dream has now come true! Our English edition of the Nyamilima Newsletter will now be available to a wider audience in different parts of the world. In this way, many of our English-speaking friends and benefactors will have ongoing news about the Adorno Fathers Missions worldwide. In this way, our communities will be enriched and the newsletter will also be a source of fervor and pride for our young men in formation.

Our mission newsletter was originally published in black and white. It evolved over the years and then in 2006, it was decided to print the newsletter in color to better enhance the images and texts. May God grant us many blessings through the English edition of the newsletter. We certainly look forward to your prayers and support. May God bless you always.



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FOR THE NYAMILIMA MISSION IT'S ONE DAY AT THE TIME

by: Fr. Faustino Kumbale, CRM
(Translated from Italian)



Rev. Fr. Nony Villaluz, CRM

*give, and it will be given
to you. Good measure,
pressed down, shaken
together, running over, will
be put into your lap. For
with the measure you use it
will be measured back to
you. (Luke 6:38)*



Dearest Fathers, friends, benefactors and all who follow us in so many different ways. It is quite some time we have not had an adequate update of the great Caracciolini / Adorno missionary work God is carrying on in this part of the world through all of you

The exhortation of the Lord: 'Go into the whole world and proclaim the Gospel' (Matt.15: 16), still rings with power in our minds and hearts and we try every day to fulfill with joy and enthusiasm its true content despite the hard times of Covid 19 in which we are living. In the name of the Nyamilima mission I express my deep sorrow for the families who have been affected and I pray for the eternal repose of all our benefactors, friends and relatives called by the Lord to the life without end.

It was a very difficult time for our mission when we had to close the churches and chapels during the long long months! It seemed like the end of the world every day we had to close the church in front of the neophytes and when the lymph of the Sacraments was no more there. We felt like we could not wait anymore to see the churches re-open and re-organize everything: baptisms, confessions, weddings, First Communion and in the end even the Priestly ordinations!

Friends, if the closing of the churches caused immense damage, the closing of the schools brought damage which is irreparable now and ever; schools were destroyed either by inclement weather or by the barbarians- the school children learned the wrong ways and many bad habits were born from such a life of loafers; the rest of the children now have come back to school to re-start all over from the beginning.

I take this occasion to thank all the families who have adopted our school children and who have made sure that these children would not lack the basic necessities in these times of scarcity and who made possible for us to help them with the monthly allowance for food: the

only thing which functioned, gave them some solace and helped them to grow. Now even the schools have re-opened, all are happy to attend classes as they run and sing. All the children, who in normal times do not love going to school, today they are the first to arrive in the classrooms. I want to believe they are determined to do well. We have also distributed the scholastic materials and the uniforms. Everything has always been possible, thanks to your generosity. Thanks!



I cannot conclude without speaking and thanking God and all of you who have believed and still believe in the great and most useful work of another part of the mission, that is THE ST. JOHN HOSPITAL, which thanks to you is still operating. If it was not, we would be all dead, because it never closed its doors; we went there for health problems and we were always received by its doctors and nurses notwithstanding the inability of people to pay due to the millennial war, the daily robberies and the corrupt government.

We are much afraid for the life and future of this Mission, because it remains very wounded from the world crisis, from the death of our first missionaries, Fr. Thomas and Fr. Paul, and also from the lack of response of so many faithful benefactors of past years. Beyond these reasons, the Virus with all its consequences has made impossible a number of missionary activities. Nonetheless, we are confident that this mission is not a human, but a divine undertaking! It will overcome all adversities and stand for ever, because God will inspire new energies to come forward and new people of good will.

Order of the Clerics Regular Minor
(Adorno Fathers & Brothers)



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I BECOME WHAT I SEEK

by: Deacon Augustine Karaire, CRM
(Translated from Italian)

The roots of education are bitter but the fruits are sweet” is a phrase that was inscribed on the walls of almost every building and class room in my primary school. However, the first part of the saying seemed more true to me since that was where I belonged. Looking back now I wonder what kept me going. This is analogous to formation.

One professor described formation as information, formation and transformation. I have been transformed and I have seen and I have become what I seek; am happy and I can’t complain; priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek the High Priest.

In my mind I do. I see. I love something. I love someone. I fear to become what I seek. Just like we become what we eat, so too I fret becoming what I seek. I am certain that I will become what I seek because to it I send out my heart. I seek just what I love and when I fall in love with what I seek, I become one with it. Become what I love.

“I am even more certain now that the more we love Christ, the more Christ-like we become, the more we love our ministry as Priest, the more we will be happy.”

We find identification with the things we love. Once we identify with the things we love, we put our hearts towards them. For them we crave with a longing so deep. Our families and background may be responsible for who we are, (my family is responsible for my being Augustine karaire), but we are responsible for what we become (not becoming a sloth); Priest, yes and am happy. So if one becomes a thief in life, the family is not responsible because the heart was constantly sent towards stealing. Even situations should not be

blamed because to solve a frustrating situation in life is not to aggravate it by becoming something worse.

The Scriptures tell us that we should seek, and we shall find, knock and the door will be opened to you, for all who seek will find and all who knock will have the door opened to them (Mt. 7:7). Even in all these, we should be careful with the things we seek; with the things we send our hearts to. There is a reason to this.

Loving things is dangerous. It changes even the look we give to everything that relates to the thing or person loved. Loving changes our lives. This is neither mere allusion nor fantasy. The more we grow in love with palm wine, the more palm wine we become. So, I am even more certain now that the more we love Christ, the more Christ-like we become, the more we love our ministry as Priest, the more we will be happy.

Loving without reason can become addictive and senseless. Therefore, we should regulate the sending of our hearts towards things. Too much of a thing can become a danger to the society because they become uncontrollable, senseless and wasteful, what do you think about being addicted to the person of Christ who prior today, was not known to us, but today we know Him because He has shown Himself to us in the person of Jesus Christ.



They are first of all sons and daughters of God, but also sons and daughters of East Africa in the Democratic Republic of Congo in the Diocese of Goma. The school is not far from the St. Joseph Formation House of the Caracciolini/Adorno Fathers and one of them, Father Thomas Barbona, several years ago took the initiative to build the school in this area. It has become a beautiful institution created and constructed by a benefactor from Italy. It offers basic education and specializes in Hotellerie et Restaurationso that its students may become experts of reception and preparation of foods anywhere in the world. They take inspiration from St. Francis Caracciolo, the Patron Saint of chefs in Italy, and their motto is “Duc in Altum et Veritas = Aim for Greater Things and Truth.”



**+ Rev. Thomas Barbona, CRM
(1941 - 2014)**

PRESENTING THE SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF THOMAS BARBONA SECONDARY SCHOOL

by: Deacon Augustine, CRM
(Translated from Italian)



The Democratic Republic of Congo is a beautiful country with forests, rivers, trees of all kinds, green areas for recreation, national parks and all kinds of animals (gorillas, antelopes, goats, hippopotamus, lions, birds of all colors etc., but offers scarce access to the education of its children. That is why the children of the Keshero area in Goma are grateful and proud to attend the THOMAS BARBONA SECONDARY SCHOOL. Here they receive a good education, discipline, good habits and foundation for success as future leaders, parents, teachers and experts of social manners and culinary chefs.

Recently the Superior General of the Adorno Fathers, Rev. Teodoro Kalaw, visited the School and suggested to them three words to remember: Smile, Love and Hope — a simple smile can heal many things, an act of love can cure lots of diseases, a hopeful person can guide to a successful life. In the end, the students themselves expressed gratitude to be in a good place for success and invited the visitor to come back and see how they are progressing at the THOMAS BARBONA SECONDARY SCHOOL.

A VISIT TO THE NEW C.R.M MISSIONS IN TANZANIA

by: Brother Juma Owino Joseph, CRM
(Translated from Italian)

How great and wonderful it is to thank God for the gift of missionary vocations in the Church, for the beauty of the children of God and for the thirst for the Word of God among His people. Without forgetting to pray for the many people of good will whose prayers and support makes our missionary presence possible in different places, while we await the flourishing of the family of God out of this humble service... these were actually some of the few words I was contemplating when I was leaving Tanzania!

It was just few days before the end of the first semester exams, that our Superior announced that during the short December Holidays, the second-year brothers will have parish experience in the two new missions in Tanzania. This could be good opportunity for two brothers from the Philippines (Br. Jordan and Br. Eugene) to learn Kiswahili language as they interact with the local people. In fact, well-spoken Swahili is found in Tanzania more than in other areas of Eastern Africa and of D.R.Congo.



Warm Welcome

It was December 6 when we arrived in our first Parish mission in Tanzania, in the Diocese Geita, at Kharumwa. The Fathers in service here were really waiting for us, their warm, joyful welcome and hospitality could not be hidden. For sure, this was a confirmation of the real hospitality among the people of Tanzania that made us forget even the tiredness of the journey that evening. Kharumwa is still a small community but full of life!

My brothers Eugene and Jordan were already settled, while I was in transit! I was to go to the newly opened mission parish, called Ngomamtimba, in the same diocese but in a different region. I left Kharumwa to meet Fr. Julien and Fr. John who are currently serving in that new parish of Ngomamtimba. I met them in Geita, at the cathedral, where they were having a retreat, it was their last day of retreat which included all the diocesan and religious priests in the diocese, together with their Bishop. I realised that the Caracciolini Fathers are the only male religious order in the diocese! I also had the opportunity to greet the Bishop after Mass. He was so kind, jovial, humble and showed that he really loved and is happy with the presence of the Caracciolini Fathers in his diocese. In fact, when I was introduced to him by Fr. Faustin, he jokingly exclaimed in a loud voice and smiling: 'Ohhh Fr. Faustin umetuletea tena shemasi mwingine karibuni sana jameni!' ('Ohhh, Fr. Faustin has brought another deacon! Welcome, very dear ones!'). Fr. Faustin told him about our visit in Tanzania and he also wished that the brothers Eugene and Jordan would pay him a visit, which we did some days later. I think that the presence of the Caracciolini Fathers in this mission area brings a little diversity in the diocesan configuration and in its pastoral approach.

Ngomamtimba



Our new mission in Ngomamtimba is still a young but vibrant parish, more than one can imagine in just less than four months! The parish has nine active out-stations. The fathers here are always in service in all the pastoral activities; you could see one in the office dealing with sacramental issues, listening to Christians, another in the field planting trees or trying to discuss with men on how to go about constructing the parish wash rooms, the other is with the youth and women carrying bricks. I too have not spared myself, I got into the rhythm and I joined the catechist in instructing the young catechumens.

In fact, the pastoral life here is a life of simplicity and contact. The daily interaction of the people by our Fathers here shows really that missionary zeal is to be with the people, the family of God who is always in search of Him. Every Sunday, the Fathers in-charge here with the deacon, serve the Christians in at least six out of the nine out-stations. The participation of the faithful, in return, here is very active which shows how they appreciate the presence of the Caracciolini Fathers. This experience reminds me of one of the



letters of our Fr. General to the priests, especially those in the parish ministry, that they must always remind themselves every day that priesthood is more a vocation than a job!... Job relies upon the routines and best practices, while ours is a vocation that is deeply rooted in the acts and words of Christ.

However, one could realize that there is still some kind of duplicity in this area, it happened that for a long time the Christian in this area missed the presence of a priest. They depended much on the help of a catechist, since the Mother Parish was too far away, a task which was also not easy for the catechist. Because of this lack of personnel, some people lapsed to other denominations. Thus, it's quite challenging to live the



Christian faith in the middle of other evangelical churches, commonly called, walokole, without fear or compromise in front of the difficulties encountered. Because of this, our Fathers in service here, seem to include both the primary and ongoing evangelization. Apart from the daily and Sunday Masses, especially in the parish and the nearby outstations, there is also a daily pastoral activity to the different Small Christian Communities; this includes a catechetical session for the continuous development of faith.

My short stay here helped me to equip myself, once again, on what to expect in the future as a missionary, to be aware of the strengths and challenges of parish ministry; this is another strength to the deepening of my discernment especially as am still in the formation.

We thank our Superior and the formation team for this helpful experience in the missions, it is indeed good opportunity to understand the reality of our lives in the missions, to experience our community life in the parish set-up.

THE GIFT OF A CHURCH BELL FROM THE MARINELLI CASTING HOUSE TO THE COMMUNITY OF MABOLIO (R.D. CONGO)

(Translated from Italian)

The bell is a universal voice which tolls from churches, civic towers and public buildings. In the morning it awakens us, in the evening it wishes us a good night.

Many times, we wait for that sound before getting up and starting a prayer or, in the evening, for putting out the lights and going to bed. For the Christian community the bell is the voice of the Lord who calls us so that we can meet him especially in the daily celebration. In many places, every Friday at 3 pm., it is customary to ring “The Agony of the Lord” with 33 tolls on the major bell as we remember the passion of Jesus Christ.

With this gift, from Casting House Marinelli to the Christian community of Mabolio, we can put away the

automobile rim which was used to call the people to prayer!!!

A sincere Thank You to the Marinelli family and our confreres in Agnone who were instrumental in obtaining the beautiful gift.



FROM DARKNESS TO LIGHT

by: Fr.Raffaele Mandolesi, CRM
(Translated from Italian)

In this time of world pandemic, caused by the corona virus we all have experienced isolation by forced quarantine. Throughout the period we have accepted to remain closed in our houses, avoided meeting other people so as to minimize the contagion of the virus to as few people as possible. For the common good we have lived in difficult condition as we knew that our sacrifice could be the salvation for others.

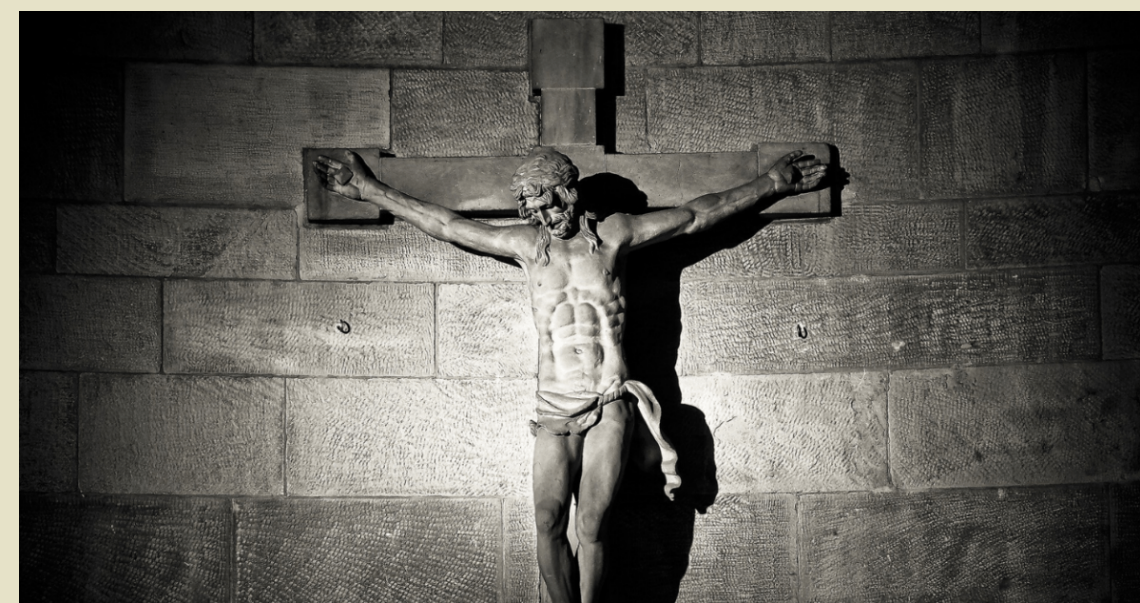
The believers, with great sorrow have renounced even the eucharistic celebration, offering all for the glory of God and for the good of the world. In the face of these conditions, I am certain Jesus has had compassion for



us, who have fallen to our knees and prayed as we never did, so that we could be freed from the Virus. So many people in a situation so dramatic for the first time fell to their knees or have returned to prayer asking the Lord of life to free them from this ‘leprosy.’

There have been millions of people who have followed with great participation the prayer of Pope Francis, before a Crucifix and an image of the ‘Salus populi’ in St. Peter’s square, asking for an end of the pandemic: “fearful and lost, we are called to row together. For weeks it seems like the evening has fallen upon us—dense darkness has fallen in our squares, streets and cities; it has taken over our lives by filling everything with a deafening silence and a distressing void, which paralyses everything as it passes by: we can see it in the gestures, we can tell it from the glances.”

In such a dramatic situation, there were also positive results: many have rediscovered the dialogue within the family, solidarity...we must not despair, nor fall into depression! In the horizon we must see the sun which rises: Jesus Christ who with his Resurrection has given back hope to so many brothers and sisters. As with the disciples of Emmaus, so for us, may the meeting with the Lord be an event which helps us to overcome the difficulties of the present moment!



Jesus has had compassion and has touched the life of so many of us, he has purified all those who prayed and helped them to see the things that are truly important in life. Jesus ‘touched’ the sick through so many doctors, nurses and health workers who gave of themselves to save lives. Jesus touched the hearts of so many through the ministry of priests who accompanied them and sustained them with the words of God filled with hope and meaning. Jesus touched the bodies of so many poor, people fallen in financial difficulties, caused by the pandemic, through many lay people who volunteered to collect and distribute food items and other necessities.

“Help us, O Lord, not to be afraid of the ‘lepers’ of today, of those whom we can help with our hands. Help us to know how to renounce our interests for the good of our neighbor and our community, and give us the strength to be near to those who suffer in isolation.”



HOW BEAUTIFUL AND JOYFUL IT IS TO BE AT GOD'S PRECIOUS SERVICE

by: Fr. Justin Kambale , CRM
(Translated from Italian)

The present article aims at first and foremost to thank the Almighty God for the wonderful and priceless gift of Priesthood within the One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Roman Church.

In fact, being aware that our Religious Family has been given another opportunity of increasing in number through the priestly ordination of six religious candidates from the African Delegation, I would like to share my personal feelings with regard to such a great and important step forward, pertaining to my journey as Christian first of all and thereafter as God's minister.

Acknowledging that Ministerial Priesthood is a special service administered over some people who feel the call of God to serve him through his flock, I would like to recall the fact that, far from being perceived as a title or a social rank, it should be considered as a service to be rendered for the benefit and the welfare of God's people since it is rooted within Jesus' Priesthood who came down from heaven, not with the purpose of being served, but rather to become the Servant of all in humility and faithfulness to God his Father and ours.

Having said that, it was by 19th March 2021 on the Solemnity of Saint Joseph known by the Church as the Chaste and faithful Spouse of the Blessed Mother, that God led to completion that which used to be a dream for us.

After being admitted to the priesthood by our superiors and after a six days retreat in Buturande, an area found in R.D.C., North Kivu Province, we were able to enjoy the fruit of our endurance through the priestly ordination in Goma, by his Excellency Bishop Willy Ngumbi. As a reminder, there were six candidate from the diocese and six religious candidates from our Order.



“ what I am now is indeed a fruit of God's unfathomable love and mercy

around 9.45 am and ended at around half past three in the afternoon, with the huge attendance of Christians, priests and three Bishops of whom the two emeritus, Faustin Ngabu and Théophile Kaboy.

On the eve of this great day made by the Lord for us, we went to the Bishop's house in order to proclaim the profession of our faith and to observe some commitments as stipulated by the rules of the Church.

As we did it, while uttering the proper words restricted to such a purpose, it may sounds like they are just to be read as they are, if pronounced superficially, yet I came to understand that they are so meaningful and strong ones, and therefore such a commitment really requires God's support under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

Coming back to the Eucharistic Celebration of March 19, I was filled with joy not only because of seeing that so longed for day, but most especially thanking God who, regardless of my human frailties, chose me to become the instrument through which He will be bestowing and showering his graces and blessings over his people. That simply means that what I am now is indeed a fruit of God's unfathomable love and mercy, and as a matter of fact I should ever be thankful to Him for I am not better than the rest of my group mates who are no longer with me.

By the Bishop's homily, I got so edified by some of his instructions that I would like to share them right away. He started by giving a brief background of why the Church our Mother celebrates the above-mentioned

solemnity; he thereafter recalled saint Joseph virtues, especially underlining the virtue of silence as an expression of a man's availability to hear God talking in his heart and responding to God's message through concrete life.

It was after addressing the assembly in general that the Bishop then turned to us and reminded us about our commitment and our access to the second level of participation in Jesus' Ministry, as those who will be acting in his very person through the offering of the Sacrifice of Mass and winning many more souls for Christ.

At this very point, he reminded the fact that there is no distinction between the priesthood administered over either the diocesan candidates and the religious ones, since it is rooted in Christ and has the very same and unique finality, that of acting as another Christ in the midst of God's people. By saying so I understood that he wanted us to avoid such a tendency which constitutes a danger for some people, to bring distinctions in that Ministry just because of many religious families and dioceses are linked to a variety of people.

Next to that was the reminder about our religious vows, namely poverty, chastity and obedience whereby we, as newly ordained servants, should be expected to implement them within our daily lives.

Furthermore, the Bishop continued by urging us to be true ministers who help everyone's regardless of their situation. Moreover, he also urged us to be people who unite not that separate God's people because of tribalism, and besides we should be more careful while receiving or reading some fake news, so that we may avoid to be entrapped. By that he wanted us to be more critical before confirming any news coming over. At last, he asked us to emulate Saint Joseph's virtues by being caring ministers as he cared for Jesus and Mary our Mother.

It is after such a wise and rich homily that serious things started as required by the rite of access to the Sacrament of Order.

According to me, everything that took place really touched me and was like an opportunity for me to come

into myself in order to see if I am really set for the great power that God was about to entrust to me through the Bishop. I really felt some fear due to my unworthiness, but fortunately I got comforted by the fact that with and in God, I will be strengthened enough to perform my duties as newly ordained priest.

However, this step that I have reached is really the great and best one that I ever enjoyed in my life. For sure it is not an easy task, but it is a precious and particular treasure that I am to safeguard with lots of interest and carefulness, especially as a young priest of our confused era. With God, I am convinced that I will be trying to do what I can, provided it takes its beginning and its end in Him. This is really not the service of human effort, but God's, and therefore I do acknowledge that it is in Him and by Him that I will be enabled to serve him.

As Archbishop Socrates said during his wonderful homily on the day of the ordination of three priests in 2019 in the Philippines, we are to remember that what we are is not a fruit of our merits, but an expression of God's love and mercy towards us. To be good priests he said, doesn't depend on who we are or on what we are able to do, but rather on acknowledging that, since God knows us better than we know ourselves, He just expects from us not to boast, but rather to keep three important things in our minds, namely acknowledging our weaknesses and being weak enough so that God's strength may abide in us; being broken enough in order to make sacrifices in our lives through enduring even persecutions as our Master did; and lastly being afraid enough in order to be a good priest by avoiding counter-values.

While reaching the end of my sharing, I do think of all the people, each one in his respective level and title, that assisted me in one way or another and will still assist me so that I may remain God's servant in humility, obedience and charity especially towards the less fortunate.

May we still continue praying for one another so that we may all work hard, each one in his own call or vocation, in order to reach our common goal, that of achieving perfection and holiness.

All in Jesus through Mary, Ad Majorem