



MISSIONARIES OF ST FRANCIS DE SALES

Fransalians - Province of East Africa
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My dear Confreres,

I wish you all a happy Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord! May we be led by the Spirit of God to listen to his voice in our day today lives and make tents for Christ in our hearts.



KENOSIS

The Greek word for "emptied" is kenoō, from which comes the theological term kenosis meaning self-emptying. This is revealed in the mystery of Trinity. The Cappadocian Fathers of the fourth century saw that God the Father, who is Love, completely empties his self into the Son; the Son empties himself into the Spirit; and the Spirit empties into the Father. Incarnation flows from this kenosis that is inherent to God's nature. The kenosis of Christ is his emptying of all divine privileges to become a servant for those he loves through incarnation (Phil 2:7). But what exactly did Christ empty himself of?

There are at least four things that Jesus willingly gave up to become that Child in the manger: *First of all, he emptied himself of his pristine position in relation to the Law.* Although not personally guilty of any sin, Jesus willingly took upon himself the sins of those he saves. Paul makes this clear when he writes, "For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God" (2 Cor.5:21).

Secondly, *he emptied himself of his rightful ownership of everything.* Although he created everything, Jesus had to borrow a place to be born, homes to sleep in, boats from which to preach, an animal to ride into Jerusalem on, a room in which to eat the Last Supper, and a tomb to be buried in. Thirdly, *he emptied himself of his heavenly glory that he shared with the Father.* Right before his arrest, Jesus prayed, "I glorified you on earth, having accomplished the work that you gave me to do. And now Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had with you before the world existed" (Jn. 17:4–5). Lastly, *Jesus emptied himself of his divine knowledge.* This required Jesus to rely solely on the Father for what he knew. And that's why Jesus, although God, "did not

know" when his second coming would occur (Mat. 24:36). He had voluntarily given up that knowledge to live his life on earth as a man.

With the kenosis, Jesus set an example of how we all should live – in complete dependence upon God for everything, including the knowledge and wisdom that we need. The lesson for us from this kenosis is that we should imitate our Master. Whatever supposed privileges we possess should be set aside in our service to others. Jesus did not cling to his heavenly throne; so why should we cling to earthly treasures? We must be willing to empty ourselves, just as Jesus did.

As the entire Congregation prepares itself for the 20th General Chapter with the theme “MSFS: Wake up to the Basics” focusing on Community life, Mission, MSFSness and Spirituality of St. Francis de Sales, we are reminded to imitate our Master, who emptied himself for our redemption. Our community life will become a reality only, when we are ready to empty ourselves for the sake of others; our mission can become successful only, when we understand that our mission is the mission of Christ, who emptied himself to become one of us. A life of *Kenosis* is required to practice Salesian spirituality in our personal life; and to remain loyal to our Congregation; and to live MSFSness in our day to day lives. We can reach out to our basics only through a life of *Kenosis*.

PRIESTLY ORDINATIONS



Fr. Nabende Simon Peter was born on 10th June, 1983 in Masira Sub County Mbale District - Uganda. He is the son of Mr. Paskali Fungo and Miss Nakayenze Beatrice. He joined the Congregation of the Missionaries of St. Francis de Sales in 2008. He did his Aspirancy and Pre novitiate in Ndagani - Kenya. He entered Novitiate in 2009 and made his first profession on 10th July, 2010 in Kibaha - Tanzania. His Philosophical studies were in Lumen Christi Institute in Arusha - Tanzania between 2010 and 2013 and Regency in SFS Primary School

Katani – Kenya. He had his theological studies in Jordan university College Morogoro - Tanzania between 2014 and 2018. He made his Final Commitment on 4th March, 2017 and was ordained a deacon on 28th October, 2017. He was ordained to Priest on 7th July, 2018 by His Grace Emmanuel Obbo, the Archbishop of Tororo, Uganda.

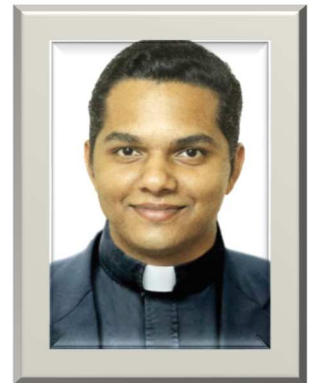
Fr. Patrick Titus Musyimi MSFS was born on 29th August, 1975 in Makueni County, Kenya. He is the first born of late Mr. Jackson Mwanja Nzioki and Mrs Scholastica Grace Kamene. He completed his primary education at Kitikyumu Pre/Primary School from 1980-1991 and his secondary school studies at Pope Paul VI Junior Seminary between 2004 and 2007. He joined the Missionaries of St. Francis de Sales in 2008, and had his Aspirancy and Pre-noviciate in Fransalian Seminary, Ndagani. He made his First Profession on 10th July, 2010. His Philosophical studies were at Lumen Christi Institute, Arusha (2010 – 2013). He did his Regency at Ipuli Children’s Home, Tabora, Tanzania, and had his Theological studies at Jordan University College, Morogoro, Tanzania (2014 – 2018). On 4th April, 2017, he made his Perpetual Profession at Fransalian Study House, Morogoro. On October 28th, 2017, he was ordained a deacon at Jordan University Chapel by His Lordship Rt. Rev. Anthony Banzi, Bishop of the Catholic Diocese of Tanga. He was ordained a Priest on 26th July, 2018, by His Grace Rt. Rev. Anthony Muheria, the Archbishop of Nyeri.





Fr. Francis Kyule is the son of Mr Christopher Muasya and Mrs. Jacqueline Muthini. He attended Mutendeu Primary school from 1993-2003, after which he joined Pope Paul VI Junior Seminary Machakos from 2004-2007 for his Secondary education. He joined the Fransalians in 2008 and began his formation at Fransalian Seminary Ndagani. He made his first profession on 10th July, 2010. He completed his Philosophy course at Lumen Christi Institute from 2010 to 2014. Upon completion of his philosophical studies, he was appointed at Fransalian Seminary Ndagani for his regency. He did his Theological studies at Jordan University College, Morogoro from 2015 to 2018. On 4th March 2017, he made his perpetual profession at Fransalian Study House Kola. He received Diaconate of 28th October 2017 at Jordan University College Morogoro and was ordained a Priest on 26th July, 2018, by His Grace Rt. Rev. Anthony Muheria, the Archbishop of Nyeri.

Dn. Martin John Pendanath was born on August 29, 1990 of Mr. and Mrs. P.V. John in Kanhangad, Kerala, India. He did his early schooling was at GHSS Maloth Kasaba from 1996-2006 and had his secondary education at GVHSS Thamarassery from 2007-2009. He joined the Missionaries of St. Francis de Sales and began his Seminary formation at Vinaya Bhavan, Thamarassery from 2006 to 2009. He made the first profession on June 11, 2010. He studied philosophy in Suvidya College Bangalore between 2010 and 2013. During this time he also completed BEc from St. Francis de Sales College Bangalore. He did his Regency at MSFS Provincial House, Morogoro. His theological Studies were at Jordan University College, Morogoro from 2014 to 2018. He made his perpetual profession on March 4, 2017. He was ordained a deacon on October 28, 2017 at Jordan University College by his Lordship Anthony Banzi, the Bishop of Tanga. He will be ordained a priest on 20th September, 2018 at Paduppa, Kerala, India.



FIRST PROFESSION



Twentyfirst of July, 2018 will go into the annals of the history of Fransalians in Africa, as on that day, 18 Novices (Southern Africa 2, Tchad-Cameroon 6 and East Africa 11) made their First Commitment to the Lord at St. Francis de Sales Church, Mkuza, Kibaha, Tanzania. His Excellency Archbishop Marek Solczynski, the Apostolic Nuncio to Tanzania presided over the Eucharistic celebration and Fr. Mathew Thazahthukunnel MSFS, Provincial of East Africa received the vows. The

Apostolic Nuncio in his homily exhorted the newly professed to remain faithful to the commitment they made and serve the Church, which is universal and missionary. A large number of priests, religious and lay people participated in the celebration.

I take this opportunity to thank and appreciate Fr. A. Sebastian, the Novice Master, Fr. Santhosh Prakashbhavan, Fr. Gerald Mabiriizi and Fr. Johnson Kallidukil, who accompanied our novices during their Novitiate and helped them to discern and grow in their vocation to religious life. Hearty Congratulations to all our newly professed novices. The Congregation whole heartily welcomes you to the Fransalian Family.

NEW NOVICES

On 20th July, 2018, eleven Novices (Tchad-Cameroon: 5 and East Africa: 6) were initiated to the Novitiate by Fr. Mathew Thazhathukunnel MSFS, Provincial of East Africa. Fr. Provincial exhorted the Novices to deepen their prayer life and discern their vocation to religious life in the Congregation of Missionaries of St. Francis de Sales during this one year of Canonical Novitiate.



ASPIRANTS



On 20th July, 2018, fourteen Aspirants (Mozambique: 1 and East Africa: 13) joined Fransalian Seminary, at Ndagani, Kenya. I sincerely thank and appreciate our Vocation Promoters Fr. Japhet Kirimi, Fr. Stephen Mutisya, Fr. Thomas Njue and Fr. Joseph Kayanja for their efforts to recruit new candidates to our Congregation.

FORUM MEETINGS

Education Forum: A meeting of the Education Forum was held on 12th June, 2018 at Lumen Christi Institute. The Forum evaluated the ministry of education in the Province. It was suggested to have a common educational policy throughout the Province, to establish a committee, which would visit schools every year and make an evaluation of academic performance and the functioning of every school and to make a common Child Protection Policy for schools in the Province. The members appreciated the schools for continuing to support the poor and needy children.

Stewardship Forum: A meeting of the Stewardship Forum was held on 15th June, 2018 at Lumen Christi Institute. Fr. Augustine Mangatt, our General Bursar addressed the meeting and emphasized the importance of implementing *Financial Accountability System of Transparency (FAST)* in the Province in order to ensure accountability and transparency. The Forum suggested making a Land Commission and Stewardship Commission in the Province. It was also suggested that all the communities should use Quick Book programme for accounting.

Social and Innovative Ministry Forum held its annual meeting on 30th July, 2018 at Lumen Christi Institute. The Forum evaluated the social and innovative ministries of the Province. It was suggested to strengthen and improve the existing various social and innovative ministries in the Province.

ON-GOING FORMATION PROGRAMMES

The Province of East Africa conducted three On-going Programmes for the confreres in 2018. The first programme dealt with “Enneagram, Inner child and NLP.” The theme of the second programme was “Journey to Wholeness and Holiness”. Both programmes were animated by Sr. Celine Jose UMI. The third programme was on “Skills in Pastoral Counselling” and it was facilitated by Fr. Binu Eduthumpampil MSFS. All the confreres in East Africa participated in one or other of the programmes. I sincerely thank every confrere for the active participation despite the busy schedule in their places of ministry. I am sure that these programmes would help us to grow personally, in the community and as a Province. I sincerely thank Sr. Celine and Fr. Binu for facilitating these seminars for our confreres in East Africa. May God bless you.

MSAF MEETING

The Mission Superiors of Africa Forum met from 18th to 21st June, 2018 in Maputo, Mozambique. The Mission Superior from Zambia, Delegation Superiors from Tchad-Cameroon, Mozambique, Regional Superior from Southern Africa and the Provincial of East Africa participated in the meeting. The Forum discussed various matters pertaining to the Mission of Fransalians in Africa. There was a suggestion to form and train Parish Mission Preaching Teams in every unit of MSAF. The meeting also suggested to intensify Vocation Promotion in every unit and to come to the help of units which do not have sufficient vocations.

GRATITUDE

I sincerely thank Fr. A. Sebastian who was the Director of Novices for the last seven years. We appreciate Fr. Sebastian for forming our young confreres with gentleness and humanness. He was a loving father and brother for the novices and accompanied the novices with total dedication. May God continue to bless him abundantly.

HEARTY WELCOME

It is with great joy that we welcome Fr. S. Prashanth from South West India Province. He is appointed as the Socius in MSFS Novitiate at Kibaha. We wish him a fruitful ministry in Tanzania.

CONGRATULATIONS

Delegation of Tchad-Cameroon: Tchad-Cameroon Mission is elevated to the status of a Delegation. **Fr. Manoj Arackal**, who was the Mission Superior of Tchad-Cameroon Mission is now appointed as the Delegation Superior. We wish him God's blessings as he assumes his new responsibility.

Fr. R. Sebastian Williams has completed his MA in Education in first division. Hearty congratulations dear Fr. Williams!

APPOINTMENTS AND TRANSFERS

Fr. A. Sebastian is designated to be appointed to the new mission at Ibihwa in the Archdiocese of Dodoma from November 2018. He is appointed temporarily to the Fransalian Community at Mwakata with effect from 15th of August 2018.

Fr. Joseph Kayanja is appointed as the superior of Fransalian Community at Kashishi and is designated to be appointed as the Parish Priest of St. Francis de Sales Church, Kashishi with effect from 24th of August 2018.

Fr. Jobin Karottukampadathil is appointed as the Vice Rector and Bursar of Fransalian Seminary, Ndagani with effect from 13th August 2018.

Fr. Aristides Danda is appointed to Kashishi Fransalian community and is designated to be appointed as the Assistant Parish Priest of St. Francis de Sales Parish, Kashishi with effect from 13th August 2018.

Fr. Stephen Mutisya is appointed to Iyolwa Fransalian Community. He is designated to be appointed as the Assistant Parish Priest of St. Francis de Sales Church, Iyolwa, with the effect from 4th September 2018.

Fr. Anthonysamy Muthusamay is appointed to Osia Fransalian community. He is designated to be appointed as the Assistant Parish Priest at St. Jude Catholic Church, Osia, Uganda with effect from 15th August 2018.

Fr. Japhet Kiriimi is designated to be appointed as the Assistant Administrator of Lumen Christi Institute and Manager of Fransalian Hekima Secondary School with effect from 15th October 2018. He will also render his services to Maji ya Chai and Ngurdoto Parishes. He continues to be the Coordinator of Vocation Promotion.

Fr. Thomas Njue is appointed to Mwakata Fransalian Community as the Principal of SFS VTC Mwakata and Bursar of the community with effect from 1st October 2018.

Fr. Shanthappa Prakash Prashath Raj is appointed to MSFS Novitiate community at Kibaha as Assistant Director of Novices and Bursar of the Community with effect from 12th July 2018.

Fr. Simon Nabende is appointed to Katani Fransalian community as the Assistant Manager and Bursar with effect from 4th September 2018.

Fr. Francis Kyule is appointed to Ipuli Fransalian Community as the Assistant Director with effect from 4th September 2018.

Fr. Patrick Musyimi is appointed to Mji Mpya Fransalian Community. He is designated to be appointed as the Assistant Parish Priest of Mji Mpya/Relini Parish with effect from 4th September 2018.

Fr. Innocent Ngowi is designated for studies (Masters in Family Apostolate) in Benin. He will leave for Benin on 1st October 2018.

Fr. Jomat Kollapallil is designated for studies in Philosophy at Catholic University of Leuven, Belgium. He will leave for Belgium on 11th September 2018.

Regency

Bro. Toussaint Ndeialdongar is appointed for his regency at Lumen Christi Institute.

LAND COMMISSION

The following confreres are appointed as members of Land Commission:

Fr. Jose Eriyanickal (C)
Fr. Thomas Njue
Fr. Sunny Vettickal
Fr. Joby Maruthomalayil

The Land Commission will look into all matters concerning land purchase/sale, taxes etc. in the Province.

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

The following confreres are appointed as members of Stewardship Committee:

Fr. Jose Eriyanickal (C)
Fr. Clement Sudhakar
Fr. Lawrence Ssebowa
Fr. Robert Soosai Raj

The Committee will be responsible for financial planning and internal auditing of accounts in all the communities.

PCPS COMMITTEE

The *Provincial Commission for Professional Standards (PCPS)* is an internal enquiry commission for the purpose of enquiring into any complaints allegations or offences committed by the confreres in the Province. The following confreres are appointed to the committee:

Fr. Johnson Kallidukil (C)
Fr. Nelson Vijayakumar
Fr. Japhet Kirimi

NEW ADDRESS

Fr. Johnson Pathiyil MSFS
Missionare von Franz von Sales
Kapuzinerkloster
Kapuzinerstrasse 3
I – 39028 Schalanders
Italy

Fr. Tomy Kattikanayil has a new email address: kattikanayiltomy@gmail.com

HOLIDAYS / VISITS / MINISTRY / SEMINAR

Fr. Stephen Nadakuzhackal:	July 10 th to November 20 th
Fr. Jacob Thekkekara:	August 6 th to September 19 th
Fr. Sebastian Palakudy:	August 9 th to September 3 rd
Fr. R.V.P Prasad:	August 9 th to August 31 st
Fr. Sijo Pendanath:	August 14 th to October 14 th
Fr. Jonathan Muema:	September 1 st to October 1 st
Fr. Innocent Ngowi:	September 3 rd to 30 th
Fr. Regi Pendanath:	September 14 th to October 14 th
Fr. Charles Ouma:	September 14 th to November 10 th

OBITUARY

Mr. Areman Paul (53), beloved father of Bro. Moses Lobong passed away on 08.06.2018

Mr. Ponsiano Kiwanuka (81), uncle of Fr. Joseph Kayanja passed away on 17.06.2018.

Sr. John Mark, the paternal aunt of Fr. Charles Ouma died in an accident 30.06.2018.

May they rest in peace!

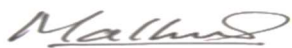
MY TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

Date	Programme
Aug 4	Graduation at SFS School Ipuli
Aug 5	Visit to Communities in Tabora
Aug 6 - 11	Retreat III
Aug 11	Lector and Acolyte ministries in LCI
Aug 12	Episcopal Consecration of Bp. Antony Lagwen in Mbulu
Aug 18	Graduation at Fransalian Mission School, Mkuza
Aug 30	Blessing of Fransalian Dumila Mission School
Sep 1	Inauguration of Academic Year at LCI
Sep 5 – Oct 6	PIF/PEA Meeting, Visits and Ordination in India

My dear Confreres,

Once again wishing you all a happy feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord, I remain.

Yours devotedly in Christ Jesus



Father Mathew Thazhathukunnel MSFS
Provincial - East Africa Province

Salesian Thought

To receive the grace of God into our hearts, we ought to empty them of our own glory. The kestrel crying out and looking at birds of prey frightens them away by its characteristic secret power. Because of it, the doves love it more than all other birds and live in security close to it. In the same way, humility drives away Satan and preserves in us the graces and gifts of the Holy Spirit. (IDL, Part III, Cha. 4)

