



ZAMBIA EPISCOPAL CONFERENCE

Catholic Secretariat, Kapingila House, Kabulonga, P.O. Box 31965, Lusaka - 10101
Tel.: 260 211 262613/262641, Fax: 260 211 262658, Email: zec@zec.org.zm Website: www.catholiczambia.org.zm

29th August, 2013.

Your Excellencies and Dear Rev. Frs, Bros and Srs in the Lord's Vineyard,

RE: Announcing the Death of Cardinal Mazombwe

Fraternal greetings come your way from the Catholic Secretariat in Lusaka.

It is indeed with a great sense of sadness that I now write to officially inform you that **His Eminence, Medardo Joseph Cardinal Mazombwe**, the Archbishop Emeritus of Lusaka, passed away around 17:00hrs today, Thursday 29th August 2013.

As you very well know, Cardinal Mazombwe has been unwell since last year. However, in the recent days, His Eminence had been experiencing a problem of vomiting after taking some food and bleeding in his nose. He was on Tuesday this week taken to the Italian Hospital here in Lusaka for further medical attention and close monitoring. Seeing that the condition was not improving, he was on Wednesday transferred and admitted at the University Teaching Hospital (UTH) where the medical experts carried out a number of tests in order to establish the root cause of his problem. The initial results showed that the kidneys were not functioning well. However, the doctors still wanted to know the extent of the problem and to determine whether the condition was reversible. As such, they had planned to carry out some further tests. However, the condition of His Eminence deteriorated in the early hours of Thursday as he begun to have some serious difficulties in breathing. The medical team tried their best and later put our dear Cardinal on oxygen. Whilst the condition seemed to stabilize during the day, the situation again radically changed in the late afternoon until he peacefully answered the final call of the Lord around 17:00hrs.

Also note that we shall inform you of the funeral program as soon as it is finalized by the competent ecclesiastical authorities. Whilst thanking you for your continued prayers and words of encouragement during this period of mourning, I wish every one of you God's continued blessings and the grace of consolation. M.H.S.R.I.P.

Sincerely Yours in Christ,

Fr. Cleophas Lungu
(Secretary General -ZEC)