

## Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As the Year 2017 Unfolds,

**1 I present to you this first edition of Mansa Roundup** for the year 2017: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**2 The Pastoral Theme that is accompanying our programs** this year is: *Ba Minshioni ba Lelo Nifwe* (We are the Missionaries of Today). This is inspired by the ongoing commemoration, of 125 years, since the arrival of the first Catholic Missionaries into the present day Zambia, and 116 into today's Mansa Diocese.

On the national level, this Jubilee was inaugurated, on 6<sup>th</sup> August 2006, at *Mambwe Mwela* in Mbala District, the very site of first settlement by the pioneer White Fathers (1891). The celebrations will conclude, on 15<sup>th</sup> July 2017, with the solemn celebration of the Eucharist in Lusaka.

**3 Locally, in Mansa Diocese, the celebrations were launched** on 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2016 at *Santa Maria wa Mwelu*, near Chibote Mission, where the first missionaries settled in



Rt. Rev. Patrick Chisanga, Bishop of Mansa Diocese

1900 and intended to establish the first Catholic mission in the Luapula region. The ruins and bricks of the house for priests are still intact up to date - a living sign of the continued sacredness of this site. To this very place we are returning on 7<sup>th</sup> October for the diocesan solemn closure of this year of celebrating the arrival and

works of the pioneer missionaries. This would also be the fitting occasion to consecrate this holy site as a Diocesan Marian Shrine, dedicated to the Queen of Missionaries. Let us all work together towards the success of these events, for *Ba Minshioni ba Lelo Nifwe*.

**4 The beginning of this year has been crowned with significant events** in the life of our Diocese and the realization of its Vision. It was very remarkable, for instance, that the very first procession into the Cathedral, for the New Year Eucharistic celebration, was led by a person with special needs who carried the processional cross and served during Mass. Our dear friend, Billy Beddor, who was born with *Down Syndrome* 51 years ago, came all the way from the US with his sister Sandy and sister-in-law, Coleen,



together with Amy Hewitt and her team from the University of Minnesota.

The training they conducted regarding people with disabilities was a great step towards the realization of our Vision of "A Diocese that Embraces Everyone with Christ's Love." To this effect, I call upon every parish and diocesan institution to put in place deliberate policies that fosters love, respect and inclusion of people with disabilities.

Another significant blessing at the beginning of this year (5<sup>th</sup> January) was the Government's handover of Kabunda Girls

Secondary School as a Catholic Mission School with Grand-Aided status. This followed the arrival of the Dominican Sisters in the Diocese (4<sup>th</sup> January) who have since been entrusted with management of the institution, which on 24<sup>th</sup> February was re-dedicated as Holy Trinity Girls Secondary School during the solemn Eucharistic celebration. Welcome to Mansa dear Sisters and thank you for taking up the challenge. The needs of this school are immense; let us all contribute to its rebuilding.

**5 A hearty welcome also to members of other religious institutes** who have recently come on board to contribute to our mission of giving life in abundance to God's flock (John 10:10). I thank in particular the superiors of the Little Servants of Mary Immaculate (LSMI), the Franciscan Missionaries of Divine Motherhood (FMDM), the Daughters of Mary Help of Christians (Salesian Sisters), the Sisters of St Joseph (*Soeurs de Sant Joseph Auxiliatrice de L'Eglise*) and our own Sisters of Mercy for the personnel they have made available to serve in the various apostolates of the Diocese in the recent past. Furthermore, I welcome the many lay faithful who have come to our Diocese and are already fully involved in the life of their respective new parishes.

Events such as the foregoing are a source of great hope for our Diocese despite the many challenges we face, especially those arising from the economic crisis that have always haunted our region of Luapula. Let us be united and fight this dehumanising evil of poverty. Let us also demand positive action from all our leaders, especially those appointed to high portfolios of central Government who tend to forget their roots. There shall be no excuse for them not to make a difference.

**6 As the year 2017 unfolds, I invite everyone to pay heed to the Lord's command**, which we have also adopted as the theme for our Diocesan Strategic Plan 2016-2021, to "Let Down the Nets for a Catch" (Luke 5:4). All departments and individuals must strive to implement the strategic goals that pertain to them. Let us be true missionaries of today who pledge not to betray the great sacrifice and works of the pioneer missionaries.

**7 May God bless all our readers of Mansa Roundup.** Thank you for your constructive feedback and every support. Have a fruitful Lenten Season.

Rt. Rev. Patrick Chisanga, OFM Conv.  
**Bishop of Mansa Diocese**

## Pope's Message for Lent 2017

Summary by Fr. Lyobā Bernard (Source: ZENIT)

### Dear Brothers and Sisters,

*'The Word is a gift. Other persons are a gift'*  
Lent is a new beginning, a path leading to the certain goal of Easter, Christ's victory over death. It is a favorable season for deepening our spiritual life through the means of sanctification offered us by the Church: fasting, prayer and almsgiving. At the basis of everything is the word of God, which during this season we are invited to hear and ponder more deeply. I would now like to consider the parable of the rich man and Lazarus (cf. *Lk 16:19-31*). Let us find inspiration in this meaningful story, for it provides a key to understanding what we need to do in order to attain true happiness and eternal life. It exhorts us to sincere conversion.

#### 1. The other person is a gift

The parable presents two main characters. The poor man is wretched and lacks the strength even to stand. Lying before the door of the rich man, his body is full of sores and dogs come to lick his wounds. The picture is one of great misery; it portrays a man disgraced and pitiful. The poor man is called *Lazarus*: a name full of promise, which literally means "*God helps*". His features are clearly delineated and he appears as an individual with his own story. While practically invisible to the rich man, he becomes a face, and as such, a gift, a priceless treasure, a human being whom God loves and cares for, despite his concrete condition as an outcast.

Lazarus teaches us that *other persons are a gift*. A right relationship with people consists in gratefully recognising their value. The parable first invites us to open the doors of our heart to others because each person is a gift. Lent is a favorable season for opening the doors to all those in need and recognising in them the face of Christ. Each life that we encounter is a gift deserving acceptance, respect and love. But in order to do this, we have to take seriously what the Gospel tells us about the rich man.

#### 2. Sin blinds us

The rich man, unlike poor Lazarus, does not have a name; he is simply called "a rich man". His opulence was seen in his extravagant and expensive robes. Purple cloth was reserved to divinities (*Jer 10:9*) and kings (*Jg 8:26*), while fine linen gave one an almost sacred character. The man was ostentatious about his wealth: "He feasted sumptuously every day". In him we can catch a dramatic glimpse of the corruption of sin, which progresses in three successive stages: love of money, vanity and pride.

The Apostle Paul tells us that "the love of money is the root of all evils" (*1 Tim 6:10*). It is the main cause of corruption and a source of envy, strife and suspicion. Money can come to dominate us, even to the point of becoming a tyrannical idol. Instead of being an instrument at our service for doing good and showing solidarity towards others, money can chain us and the entire world to a selfish logic that leaves no room for love and hinders peace.

The parable of rich man's greed makes him vain. His personality finds expression in appearances, in showing others what he can do. But his appearance masks an interior emptiness. His life is a prisoner to outward appearances, to the most superficial and fleeting aspects of existence.

The lowest rung of this moral

degradation is pride. He dresses like a king and acts like a god, forgetting that he is merely mortal. For those corrupted by love of riches, nothing exists beyond their own ego. The result of attachment to money is a sort of blindness. The rich man does not see the poor man who is starving, hurting, lying at his door. Looking at this character, we can understand why the Gospel so bluntly condemns the love of money: "No one can be the slave of two masters: You cannot be the slave both of God and of money" (*Mt 6:24*).

#### 3. The Word is a gift

The liturgy of Ash Wednesday invites us to an experience quite similar to that of the rich man. When the priest imposes the ashes on our heads, he repeats the words: "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return". As it turned out, the rich man and the poor man both died, and the greater part of the parable takes place in the afterlife. There, the rich man speaks at length with Abraham, whom he calls "father" (*Lk 16:24,27*), as a sign that he belongs to God's people. This detail makes his life appear all the more contradictory, for until this moment there had been no mention of his relation to God. In fact, there was no place for God in his life. His only god was himself.

The rich man recognises Lazarus only amid the torments of the afterlife. He wants the poor man to alleviate his suffering with a drop of water. What he asks of Lazarus is similar to what he could have done but never did. In the afterlife, a kind of fairness is restored and life's evils are balanced by good.

The rich man asks Abraham to send Lazarus to warn his brothers, who are still alive. But Abraham answers: "They have Moses and the prophets, let them listen to them". Countering the rich man's objections, he adds: "If they will not listen either to Moses or to the prophets, they will not be convinced even if someone should rise from the dead".

The rich man's real problem thus comes to the fore. At the root of all his ills was the failure to heed God's word. As a result, he no longer loved God and grew to despise his neighbour. The word of God is alive and powerful, capable of converting hearts and leading them back to God. When we close our heart to the gift of God's word, we end up closing our heart to the gift of our brothers and sisters.

Dear friends, Lent is the favorable season for renewing our encounter with Christ, living in his word, in the sacraments and in our neighbour. The Lord, who overcame the deceptions of the Tempter, during the forty days in the desert, shows us the path we must take. May the Holy Spirit lead us on a true journey of conversion, so that we can rediscover the gift of God's word, be purified of the sin that blinds us, and serve Christ present in our brothers and sisters in need. I encourage all the faithful to express this spiritual renewal also by sharing in the Lenten Campaigns promoted by many Church Organisations in different parts of the world, and thus to favor the culture of encounter in our one human family. Let us pray for one another so that, by sharing in the victory of Christ, we may open our doors to the weak and poor. Then we will be able to experience and share to the full the joy of Easter.

From the Vatican, 18 October 2016,  
Feast of Saint Luke the Evangelist  
FRANCIS

## Bishop Chisanga's Lenten Message 2017

Short Form

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

***Their Works Will Live on through Each One of Us: Ba Minshioni Ba Lelo Nifwe***

**1. On 1st March we begin the Season of Lent** - the intensive 40 days' spiritual journey towards that great summit of our Christian faith and worship: the annual celebration of the Resurrection of Jesus from the Dead.

**2. The Word of God that is proclaimed during the liturgical celebrations of the subsequent five Sundays (Year A) have a particularly rich pedagogical character that guides catechumens towards the waters of baptism and general Christian Initiation on the Easter Vigil.** All the faithful must equally endeavour to draw maximum spiritual benefit from the wealth of these carefully selected passages, in view of their own solemn renewal of the baptism promises during the same Easter Vigil celebration. The Sunday Gospel passages that will lead the way during this Lenten itinerary include:

- The Temptations of Jesus - Mt. 4:1-11,
- The Transfiguration of Jesus - Mt. 17:1-9,
- Jesus' Encounter with the Samaritan Woman at the Well - Jn. 4:5-42,
- Jesus' Healing of the Man who was Born Blind - Jn. 9:1-42 and
- Jesus Raises Lazarus from Death - Jn 11:1-45

I invite all priests to carefully meditate upon these Readings during this whole period of grace so as to be able to deliver a fitting message to the faithful during the celebration of the Eucharist. Furthermore, in view of the so many Centres that still do not have priests on Sundays, I ask all parish priests to ensure that there is sufficient prior preparation of the prayer leaders and/or catechists who are selected to comment on the Word of God during the Sunday worship in their respective outstations.

**3. This year's Lent coincides with the Pastoral Theme in our Diocese:** "We are the Missionaries of Today" (Ba Minshioni ba Lelo, Nifwe). Let us recall the sacrifice, availability and pastoral zeal of our gallant pioneer missionaries and in turn make a commitment to the effect that their works will live on through each one of us. Indeed, the Church in Mansa Diocese shall continue to announce the Good News to all creation, in obedience to the great commission of our Lord Jesus (Mark 16: 15).

**4. To rekindle this missionary zeal,** the Lenten Season offers us the instruments of

- Prayer,
- Fasting
- Almsgiving

These three pillars of Lent, when taken seriously, have the capacity to bring about lasting positive change in our lives, especially in overcoming the sinful habits that we repeatedly struggle with. I invite each one of you to pray, fast and give alms with the intention of being liberated from any such demeaning slavery.

In order to intensify our spiritual warfare against the devil through combined effort and, in response to the appeals made during the Pastoral Council Meeting last October, I again invite the faithful in all our parishes to observe the "24 hours for the Lord" on the Friday to Saturday of the 4th Week of Lent (31 March to 1 April). Let this day be flooded with prayers, songs, Eucharistic adoration, catechesis and actual celebration of the Sacraments of Reconciliation and the Eucharist. Bring to this special prayer our need for healing from anger, resentment, bitterness, acrimony, hostility, guilt, unforgiving heart, drunkenness, sexual immorality and wickedness. Through this prayer, may Divine intervention bring to an end every violence against the dignity of human life, the values of marriage and family and the integrity of God's creation.

**5. May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,** the love of God the Father and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you. I wish you a fruitful and grace-filled Lenten Season 2017.

+Patrick Chisanga, OFM Conv

*Given on this First Day of March in the Year of the Lord 2017, the Ash Wednesday*



**KABUNDA RE-DEDICATED AS HOLY TRINITY SECONDARY SCHOOL**

**“We begin this mission, entrusted to us, by dedicating this school to the protection of our God, who has**

**Chisanga in knowing the history of Kabunda secondary school and set into motion what has now finally been achieved.**



Holy Trinity pupils perform on the Inauguration Day

The bishop also recalled, with great admiration, the remarks of the immediate past Regional Prioress Sr. Margaret, who after touring the school, said, ‘One-day, Bishop, we shall come here; this is where we are needed most’. “It is therefore right and fitting that I dedicate this inauguration to you the pupils of this wonderful institution. I commit each one of you to the watchful protection of the Holy Trinity. May the Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the community of the Holy Spirit be with you dear girls”,

**revealed himself as God the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. It is in the light of this Holy Trinity, that we would want to commit this institution, all the members of staff, and especially you the pupils. With Saint Paul, I am wishing you this love of God the Father that you receive the best that the Lord is offering you, “said Bishop Chisanga during the unveiling of the School’s new name Holy Trinity Girls Secondary School (formerly Kabunda) on Friday, January 24, 2017, shortly before the solemn Eucharistic celebration, in Kabunda.**

prayed Bishop Chisanga. He told the Guest of honour that he has since entrusted Holy Trinity school to the able management of the Dominican Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. He restated that Dominicans have a vast experience, in managing schools, and that he was pushing very hard that the convent was finished as soon as yesterday for the Sisters to move into Holy Trinity Secondary School premises. Bishop Chisanga told the first group of Sisters, chosen from among all the Dominican Sisters to come to Mansa, as gallant pioneer missionaries and thanked them for the work they were already doing.

The Solemn Eucharistic Celebration was attended by the Anglican Bishop of Luapula Diocese Rt. Rev. Patrick Mumbi, Minister of General Education Hon. Dr. Denis Wanchinga, MP for Mambilima Constituency and his entourage, National Education Secretary Br. Kabeta, Luapula Region Army Commander Brigadier General Christopher Mwaba, Diocesan Education Secretary Mr. Benjamin Chama, Dominican Sisters: Srs. Patricia Mpambanya, Gabrielle Wiilms, Canisia Jahn, Matilda Banda, and Religious Sisters from other Congregations in the Diocese, some School members of Staff and pupils from St. Mary and St. Clement’s Secondary Schools.

He further decreed that the 28<sup>th</sup> day of December 2016, will forever be remembered in the history of Holy Trinity Secondary School as the day when Honourable Dr. Dennis Wanchinga, Minister of General Education and MP for Mambilima Constituency appended his signature to the proposed constitution of Kabunda Secondary School thus effecting the handover of the institution to Diocese of Mansa. The bishop saluted Hon. Wanchinga and thanked him for making the dream a reality.

Rt. Rev. Patrick Chisanga, Bishop of Mansa Diocese, told those present that God has revealed himself in us, through Jesus Christ, as God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit; and that the grace and the benevolence of our Lord Jesus Christ would be upon the pupils and upon the institution. He explained that the Holy Spirit unites, creates, and constitutes the community as one living body of Christ, the Church.

Rt. Rev. Patrick Chisanga, Bishop of Mansa Diocese, acknowledged the personal interest the Republican President took in the whole process regarding the Holy Trinity School and asked the guest of honour, Hon. Dr. Wanchinga, to kindly deliver the bishop’s expression of deep gratitude to His Excellence the President, Edgar Chagwa Lungu, for the value he attaches to the education of girl child and for the confidence he has demonstrated in the commitment of the Catholic Church.

Bishop Chisanga revealed that 80 years ago, in 1937, when Kabunda Mission was established, the missionaries already wanted to call Kabunda Mission Holy Trinity. “Today we are re-dedicating this Institution to the Holy Trinity, that it will have the blessing of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit”, reiterated Bishop Chisanga. He further revealed that the true initiators of the whole process were the pupils of Kabunda, and narrated how, in 2014, when he assumed the pastoral responsibility over Mansa diocese, and on the occasion of his first visit to Kabunda mission, a number of girls, who attended the Holy Mass at St. Stephen Parish, spontaneously approached and implored him with insistence, “Bishop bring us the Sisters, when are you bringing the Sisters to our school?”. This prompted the interest of Bishop

Bishop Chisanga also made an eminent appeal to Hon. Harry Kalaba MP for Bahati Constituency, and to relevant authorities to help kick start the raising of Holy Trinity School to desirable standards. “We can assure you of the highest moral integrity and academic excellency to the children but assist us in the following, not in order of priority: a perimeter wall Fence, a Police Station, Sanitation and sufficient running water for a school with over 500 pupils, a Modern Kitchen and Dining hall to enhance afforestation, a utility vehicle and more staff houses and teachers. “I will count on your care, Dr. Wanchinga, for quality education; I will count on the first Lady for the welfare of the girl child; I will count on Her Honour the Vice President who attaches great importance to the education of the girl child”, concluded Bishop Chisanga.

**EDUCATION IS KEY TO CHALLENGES OF THE GIRL-CHILD – ZCCB EDUCATION SECRETARY**

The ZCCB National Education Secretary Br. Charles Kabeta, in reference to the World Congress on Education Today and Tomorrow and the 2015 Congregation of the Catholic Church that celebrated



Br. Charles Kabeta ZCCB Education Secretary

its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Catholic Education and 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Apostolic Constitution Ex Corde Ecclesiae that fostered the Church’s commitment to education, quoted that, Catholic Institutions were not only expertise providers by their very nature but they were also places of encounter, dialogue and mutual enrichment, because they foster education for living in openness to others, with a view to the common good. He said this during the rededication of Holy Trinity School to the Triune God. He said that, in the Zambian context, much as we celebrate 125 years of Catholic existence, and 122 years of Catholic Education in Zambia, we still have various challenges pertaining to illiteracy, poverty, child labour, child marriages, girl child early pregnancies as well as sexual child abuse. He emphasised that Education was the only solution to such challenges and that when pupils were empowered through education, they would know their rights and how to live and support others. He said, “As we provide education we remain committed to safeguard the learning environments too hence the need for child Protection Policy.

**HON. WANCHINGA DEFIES THE LAW OF GRAVITY**



Hon. Dr. Dennis Wanchinga MP

Hon. Dr. Dennis Wanchinga MP for Mambilima Constituency and Minister of General Education, has revealed that the process of handing over Kabunda school started a long time ago and substantive

efforts were made in 1985 by the late Archbishop James Mwewa Spaita, but later stalled, until Rt. Rev. Patrick Chisanga, Bishop of Mansa Diocese, reactivated it, so much that, on 20<sup>th</sup> December 2016, the Bishop of Mansa Diocese and Minister of General Education appended signatures to the Constitution of the School.

He said that despite the handing over, the school remained part of the family of the educational system, and so, the government would continue to monitor its performance in terms of quality assurance through the Directorate of Standards who would also offer assistance as agreed upon the school and the government authorities.

He encouraged the pupils to defy the law of gravity in physics that maintains, ‘What goes up must come down’ and replace it with what has gone up must continue to go up”. He urged them to subscribe to good moral standards, stay away from immoral vices and remain children of high integrity.

He acknowledged the challenges the school was going through and assured the bishop and the managing agency that he and the government were going to work with the school to improve their learning and working environment for good performance.

He also encouraged the school to think outside the box and engage Non-Governmental Organisations like the Rotary Club and the business community to help with fundraising.



## BISHOP'S COMMITMENTS

### February

- 5 Diocesan celebration of the day for the consecrated
- 24 Official inaugurations of Holy Trinity Secondary School

### March

- Weekends of lent visitations of Mansa cathedral Small Christian Communities (SCC)
- 19-25 Commitment in Ghana

## Epiphany: The Magi did not go empty handed. What is it then that I have to give?

The Diocese of Mansa celebrates Epiphany as a Special day for the Holy Childhood. At Mansa cathedral the Holy Childhood took a centre stage during the solemn Liturgical Mass and impressed the parents. Deacon Greg Kandara from the Diocese of Brooklyn, in the USA, shares with us about epiphany. Epiphany Sunday, and the star of the gospel, is literally the original GPS device, guiding the magi from the east toward Christ.

The very word Epiphany means "manifestation." The dictionary describes it as "an intuitive grasp of reality through something simple and striking." Something as simple as a child. Something as striking as a star.

History is silent about just what the magi in the gospels really were. In some translations, they are astrologers, in others they are kings or "wise men." Because they brought three gifts – gold, frankincense and myrrh – tradition has held that there were three of them. It's a meaningful number and significant. Three is the number of the trinity and the number of days Christ spent in the tomb. It also signifies something even more meaningful and much more important today. It represents to us a community. When Christ is revealed to the world, he doesn't show himself to just one person at a time.

- On Christmas night, the news was announced to

shepherds – another kind of community.

- The incarnation is announced to the three magi - a community of people.
- At Jesus's baptism, there will be a crowd of witnesses.
- When Jesus preaches, he will speak to multitudes.
- When he performs miracles, it is done in a public gathering.
- When he reappears after his resurrection, it will be to a roomful of believers.
- Even on the road to Emmaus, he presents himself not to one person, but to two.

This is part of the great message of Christianity. We are meant to receive the good news together; to live it together; to celebrate it and share it with one another. The simple fact is that Christianity is not a solitary experience. The other important thing to remember is that the magi did not go empty-handed. They opened their treasures. They had something infinitely more precious. And like the magi, each of us has a treasure to offer Christ. The question we should ask ourselves is: what is it I have to give? No matter who we are, or where we come from, or what we do: each of us has a treasure to offer, a gift to give. The magi were just the first. They aren't the last.

[shared by Deacon Greg Kandara from the Diocese of Brooklyn, New York. Edited by Fr. Lyoba Bernard,

## REMAIN WHAT YOU ARE; YOUNG AND JOYFUL IN THE LORD - Bishop Chisanga

Rt. Rev. Patrick Chisanga, Bishop of Mansa Diocese, on February 11, 2017, graced the occasion of the Feast of Don Bosco when he celebrated the solemn Eucharistic Mass with the members of Staff and pupils of Don Bosco Secondary School, in Mansa. St.



Bishop Chisanga poses for a group photo with pupils at Don Bosco Secondary

Don Bosco, whose Feast falls on 31 January each calendar year, is the Patron Saint of Don Bosco Secondary School.

The Bishop told the pupils that Don Bosco seems to have understood the Gospel of Christ: - *the invitation of the Lord*; where the Lord wanted to raise shepherds who would take care of his sheep as the Lord would. He explained that Don Bosco had an inner calling to be the shepherd to the youth, and accordingly, helped the young people to have hope and to rejoice in the Lord. Bishop Chisanga then invited the pupils to be joyful in the Lord because the joy of the Lord needs to be the

source of their strength. There is no room for gloomy faces or sad faces especially of a young person who believes in Jesus said Bishop Chisanga. It is enough to be young and believe in Jesus. Your youthfulness and your faith in Jesus should help you to rejoice in the Lord and to be *Fully Human and Fully Alive young people*. We are not going to allow anyone to take that away from you. You remain what you are; Young and joyful in the Lord with all that it takes, the whole package of being young. It's all about energy, discovery, gift- edness, laughter, hard work, prayer and everything. You are young today, but tomorrow you could be as old as I

am, so, enjoy your youthfulness to the full; there are so many qualities about you being young, Bishop Chisanga advised the pupils.

Don Bosco School Manager, Fr. Christopher Kunda, expressed gratitude, at the visit to the School, by Rt. Rev. Patrick Chisanga, Bishop of Mansa Diocese. Fr. Kunda told the bishop that the school managed to have two female pupils obtain 6 Points, at grade 12, in the 2016 final examinations and that Grade 9 passing percentage was 93, in the 2016 academic year, and promised to do better in the year 2017 academic calendar Year.

## CRS VISITS MANSA DIOCESE HBC

Catholic relief Services visited our diocese to research on the post – project sustainability of the Private Service Provider (PSP), and Servings and Internal Lending Communities (SILC) framework methodology. The study is largely qualitative in nature and seeks to understand

- how the PSPs combine their SILC work with other ways of making a living,
- how the other livelihoods contribute to continuity to the PSP.
- and how the PSP work fits with other duties, especially for women.

Networks have been created as part of a SILC program funded by the Gates Foundation as a way to produce apprentices. CRS also asserts that Networks helps PSP form more groups, earn more money, and have less income variation. The Network is also there to ensure that

- PSPs continue forming SILC groups after the project is complete,
- provide additional services to the group,
- and to protect SILC members from bad PSPs.

CRS staff members will utilise Focus Group Discussion (FGD) to achieve a basic understanding of

- the logistics of the Network,
- the different ways the Networks

have progressed since formation, and the roles and functions they have for the group members.

The purpose of the exercise is also to appreciate whether Supervisors are able to

- understand the problem solving strategies of the PSPs and the SILC group members,
- to explore interactions between PSPs, the sustainability of the SILC project,
- and challenges they are facing in their work.

The research group was led by Julie Lwason, Chisangano Barbra and Samuel Beecher from CRS headquarters in Lusaka.

From Sr. Delphine Kalisha

### Deanery Liturgical Executive Boards Formed

Liturgical teams from various Deaneries have had Seminar on Liturgy conducted. The Seminars were an orientation to the parish teams on how they were to operate. It also served as an informative seminar on how Liturgy, especially Mass, should be celebrated according to the Roman rite. The Seminars were organised by the Diocesan Liturgical Commission.

From Fr. Costatino Mulenga



## **BILLY BEDDOR STEALS THE LIMELIGHT AT THE WORKSHOP FOR DISABILITIES**



From Left to Right : Bishop Chisanga, Billy , Coleen and Sandy Beddor

Sandy Beddor and group from America conduct a two day workshop on Promoting inclusion for people with disabilities in Zambia: A workshop on policy, advocacy and collaboration. The workshop was directed by Dr. Amy S. Hewitt Director - Research and Training Centre on Community Living, University of Minnesota, USA. In the entourage Billy Beddor, born with Down-Syndrome (47 chromosomes instead of 46) now 51, was the centre of attraction.

Rejected by Doctors before he was born, his parents took responsibility and trained him to do different abilities like communicating through speech, writing, swimming, skiing and many more. It was just marvelous listening from him. Rt. Rev. Patrick Chisanga, Bishop of Mansa Diocese invited people with disabilities and stakeholders to come and listen and learn from facilitators and motivation speakers.

## **DOMINICAN SISTERS ARRIVE IN MANSA DIOCESE**

On January 4, 2017, The Congregation of the Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus finally arrived and joined Mansa Diocese. They were welcome, upon arrival, by scores of the Catholic faithful at St Francis of Assisi Parish in Kapesha, along Chembe road. The Congregation is expected to contribute its charism and



Dominican Sisters announce their arrival in Mansa Diocese

apostolic Ministry in the life of the Diocese of Mansa. Dominican Sisters have finally arrived in Mansa Diocese. The Bishop has since given them the task of running Holy Trinity Secondary School as the Managing agency.

The Diocese of Mansa dedicated 7 days of prayer for the sick and the elderly, from 5—11 February, 2017. The climax was on the World day of prayer for the sick, on the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes which falls on 11 February, when all the parishes celebrated a solemn mass for the sick and the elderly. Many elderly sick people had the opportunity of reconceiving the Sacraments of the Reconciliation, the Sick and the Eucharist during this special week.

## **MANSA DIOCESE COMEMORATES WORLD DAY FOR THE CONSECRATED**

On 5th February, 2017, Religious Men and Women, in Mansa Diocese, met at St. John Vianey Parish, Samfya to celebrate Men and Women Religious day instituted by St. John Paul II. His Lordship Patrick C. Chisanga was the main celebrant of the Liturgy.



Zambia Association of Sisters (ZAS) during the World Day for the Consecrated

**THANK YOU GOD FOR THE GIFT OF WOMEN AND MEN IN CONSECRATED LIFE IN THE CHURCH.**

## **News from Parishes**

### **St. James Parish**

In the true Spirit of the 2017 Diocesan Pastoral Theme: *We are the Missionaries of Today*, the Holy Childhood group of St.



James Parish-Chimese, made a special visit to Bishop Chisanga at his residence on Christmas Day.

### **Kacema Musuma Parish**

- Catholic professionals are inviting all catholic civil servants in Chipili District on March 25, 2017 at the Parish Church in Mwenda
- Xaverians to meet from 10<sup>th</sup> March to 12<sup>th</sup> March at Mupeta Catholic Outstation in Kacema Musuma Parish Chipili

## **OBITUARY**



Fr. Maurice de Witt

- Fr. Maurice de Witt (Murits de Weerd) died on 11, February, 2017 in Belgium. Fr. Mauris worked in Zambia for 55 years. He was Catechist School Director before leaving Mansa Diocese in 1989. He worked in different portfolios in Chibote, Kawambwa, Nchelenge and Lubwe. He was 81.
- Sr. Rose Mushibwe, the Superior General for the Sisters of Mercy (SOM), lost her mother Mrs. Cornelia Mapili, on Sunday 19, February, 2017. She was buried on Tuesday 21, February, 2017 in Samfya.

## "I CAN'T LIVE WITHOUT PRAYER; EVERYTHING I DO SPRINGS FROM PRAYER" - SR. ELIZABETH MUTALE

Born of Mr. Michael Chanda Sikana Mutale and Mrs. Magdalene Chanda on 9<sup>th</sup> May 1957, in old Chilenje, Lusaka. Sr. Elizabeth Chishimba Nakana Chanda Mutale is the second born in a family of 10 girls and 4 boys.

She started primary education at Kapongolo primary school in 1964, in Kasama and later moved to Dan Ford Primary school, in Kabwe. After finishing her secondary school education at Mable Shaw Secondary School, in 1975, she had a stint at Chishimba National service, in Kasama.

As an aspirant for the Sisters of Mercy (1976) Sr. Elizabeth Mutale stayed with the Sisters of Charity of Holland, in Kawambwa and Nchelenge Parishes, before moving to Lubwe mission hospital to live with the White Sisters. In 1977, she entered as a postulant, with six others, in the Congregation of the Sisters of Mercy (SOM). Sister Mutale made her First Profession and Final Profession in 1980 and 1996, respectively. The Congregation of the Sisters of Mercy recognise her as the first Community leader (1980) and as the second Vicareess of the congregation (1997-2000) She trained as a professional teacher at Nkwame Nkruma Teachers Training College and later went for advanced studies at the University of Zambia. She has worked in different



portfolios in several parishes and schools in Luapula, Northern and Lusaka provinces.

According to her life experience, as a teacher, she says that teachers are the backbone of the nation and society; they liberate through eradicating ignorance and consequently poverty. She has revealed that, Mr. Katongo Joseph, her favourite teacher, taught her how to write letters of the alphabet.

Her Hobbies include reading, dancing and singing, visiting the sick and distributing Viaticum. She likes working with the youth and is very much involved in marriage counselling at diocesan level. She plans to start Radio programmes on the beauty of Natural Family Planning (NFP). Among other goals Sr. Mutale hopes to celebrate

her Golden Jubilee in 2030; to continue inculcating traditional values in society and, more especially to contribute towards the deepening of the Sisters of Mercy Charism '*Compassion*', initiated by the Father Founder Archbishop James Mwewa Spaita.

"The lord has carried me through life challenges but I have not despaired, I have escaped several accidents and I feel God always answers my prayers. I think I have grown and matured in prayer with time because I do not pray out of obligation; prayer has become part of me and I do it with joy; my prayer has become more internalised and contemplative. Prayer has enhanced my religious life, I can't live without prayer, everything I do springs from prayer. Bad days occur when I stray from God's love culminating into, sadness, disturbance, and loss of happiness," believes Sr. Mutale.

On financial management, Sr. Mutale advises people to use money wisely in order to achieve tangible results. During her leisure time Sr. Mutale, now a retired professional teacher, spends most of the time gardening around the St. Ann Convent and Malaika Mikaeli parish. She is also the Director of Family Desk in Mansa Diocese. Sr. Mutale is jovial, encouraging, inspiring and God fearing.

By Fr. Lyoba Bernard and Sr. Martha Chanda

## NEW ASSIGNMENTS, ARRIVALS, AND DEPARTURES

- Fr. Crispin Mwila, Parish Priest, St. Francis of Assisi – KAPESHA
- Fr. Francis Katoloshi, Acting Assistant PP, St. Francis of Assisi – KAPESHA
- Fr. Charles Mupanga, Parish Priest, St. Joseph's - LUBWE
- Fr. Nicodemus Chabu: Diocesan Catechetical Coordinator, Catechetical Training Centre (CTC) Director and Assistant Parish Priest, St. Joseph's - LUBWE
- Fr. Kennedy Kashinga, Parish Priest, St. Peter's Sub-parish, LUNGA
- Fr. Matthews Ngosa, Parish Priest, St. Michael – NAMWANDWE
- Fr. Frederick Mpsa: Parish Priest, St. Peter's – NCHELENGE
- Fr. Stanislaus Ponde, Parish Priest, St. John Mary Vianney, SAMFYA
- Fr. Basil Chifota: Parish Priest, Christ the King – TWINGI

### Sisters of Mercy (SOM)

- Sr. Martha Ngonia Chanda, Communications' Department/Radio at Diocesan Level
- Sr. Petronella Mulile, St. Lucy formation house as Director of Novices
- Sr. Patricia Semba, Home of Compassion Hospital (HCH) as Cashier
- Sr. Barbra Mulanga, St. Lucy formation house as Assistant Director of Novices
- Sr. Florence Mwewa, Our Lady of Mercy School as Director of Stores
- Sr. Getrude Nayame, St. Margaret Convent, Lusaka as community leader
- Sr. Joan Kasoma joins St. Theresa Convent in Kazembe
- Sr. Patricia Mulenga, Compassion Home Convent, in Mansa, as community leader
- Sr. Lillian Chonganya, Immaculate Conception Convent in Kasaba as Nurse

- Sr. Constance Lundu, posted by Govt. to Thompson Hospital, Luanshya, as Pharm. Tech.

### Little Servants of Mary Immaculate (LSMI)

- Srs. Gorska Martha and Kepi Perpetual Sakala, St. Clements community, Mansa.
- Srs. Richard Yacinta and Novice Mumba Angela, Chibote community, Kawambwa.
- Srs. Musonda Juliet, Zyambo Vivien Clare, Katongo Docas, Emeretiana Chipamba, Ihezi Perpetual, Elizabeth James Phiri and Chisanga Chileshe Patrina, St. Paul's Community, Nchelenge

### Franciscan Missionaries of the Divine Motherhood (FMDM)

- Srs. Emily Bwalya, Lucy Shimezi and Sr. Judith Mwango have joined Kasamba community.

### SALESIANS SISTERS

- Srs. Saludares Evelina from Philipine, Mumanga Justina and Mulenga Elizabeth

### SOEURS DE SAINT JOSEPH AUXILIATRICE DE L'EGLISE (SJAE)

- Srs. Agness Kalunga, Angela Kimemba and Virginia Kalima (Immediate former Mother General) from Lubumbashi

### ARRIVALS

- Welcome to Fr. Francis Kim, OFM, a friend of mansa Diocese from New Jersey, USA. Francis will be in the Diocese from 8-23 March
- Welcome back Sr. Imelda Mwandwe, SOM, to St. Agnes Convent, in Samfya, from Lusaka.

### DEPARTURES; Bone voyage, Good bye and thank you

- Sr. Maria Mazzone (Sdb), City of Hope, Lusaka
- Srs. Dona Mwale (Sdb) and Glenda Musonda (Sdb), Luara Centre, in Kasama
- Sr. Grace Musonda (LS MI), Kasisi, Lusaka