

# CONGREGATION OF THE MISSIONARIES OF MARIANHILL



MARIANHILL PROVINCE – OFFICE OF THE PROVINCIAL  
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Circular letter No. 02/2009

Dear Confreres,

## 1] Seasonal Greetings

Centenary greetings, and please receive and read the following information about events in and out of Mariannhill.

## 2] Our Jubilarians

### 50 Years of Profession(1959)

Br. Erich Peyr 01<sup>st</sup> May 1959  
Fr. Thomas Heisele 30<sup>th</sup> September 1959

Fr. Bernard Thiel 30<sup>th</sup> September 1959

### 50 Years of Ordination(1959)

Fr. Henricus Ratering 12<sup>th</sup> July 1959

### 60 Years of Ordination (1949)

Fr. Franz Xaver Wettstein 02<sup>nd</sup> April 1949

PLEASE take note that our **Patronal Feast CELEBRATION, SS Joachim and Ann, Parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary**, will take place on **MONDAY, 27<sup>th</sup> July 2009**

## 3] Arrivals and Departures

**Fr. Thulani Mbuyisa**, arrived 18<sup>th</sup> May 2009 to attend the centenary celebrations at Emaus and left on 01<sup>st</sup> June 2009 for formators meeting in Zimbabwe.

**Abbot Charles Amihere**, arrived 20<sup>th</sup> May 2009 to attend the centenary celebrations at Emaus and left on 27<sup>th</sup> May 2009 back to Cameroon.

**Br. Anthony van Heugten**, arrived 21<sup>st</sup> May 2009 for holidays in Mariannhill Province

**Fr. Damian Weber**, arrived On 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2009 to attend the centenary celebrations at Emaus and left on 05<sup>th</sup> June 2009 to Zimbabwe for visitation.

**Frs. Lawrence Mota, Mthembeni Dlamini, Peter Nkomazana, Ernest Kabungo and Matthew Kim**, left on 01<sup>st</sup> June 2009 to Zimbabwe for Formators meeting and returned on 08<sup>th</sup> June 2009.

**Fr. Sylvester Namale**, was away between 15<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> April 2009 to Rome for **Initiation**, and left again on 02<sup>nd</sup> June 2009 to Zimbabwe for formators and provincials meeting in Zimbabwe

and returned on 07<sup>th</sup> June 2009. He left for Mozambique, 17<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> July 2009 for Visitation and attending Abbot Francis Centenary celebrations at Malehice, about threehundred kilometres outside Maputo.

**Fr. Henry Ratering**, was away from 19<sup>th</sup> May 2009 to 04<sup>th</sup> June 2009 for a CMM missionary journey on Abbot Francis to the Zambian and Zimbabwean provinces.

**Novice Szymon Cydzick**, left the novitiate on personal reasons and returned to Poland on 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2009.

**Fr. Gaspard Parent**, arrives in Mariannahill 06<sup>th</sup> June for medical check up and will leave end of July 2009 or when he feels well again.

**Fr. Ivo Burkhardt**, left on 07<sup>th</sup> June 2009 for Rome after certifying the documents for the beatification of Abbot Francis Pfanner.

**Fr. George Maximilian Lautenschlager** was away from 03<sup>rd</sup> June 2009 to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2009 for a CMM missionary journey on Abbot Francis to Banja Luka, Bosnia

**Fr. Bheki Shabalala**, arrived in Mariannahill on the 20<sup>th</sup> June for a break and leaves on 30<sup>th</sup> July 2009.

**Fr. Kondwani Pinji** and **Fr. Raphael Phiri**, left for Malawi for the ordination to the priesthood of their brother and cousin, respectively.

**Fr. Lawrence Mota**, left for Johannesburg 01<sup>st</sup> July 2009 to 01<sup>st</sup> August 2009 for a last leg of his formation course.

**Brs. Siyabonga Mbeje, Sibusiso Mkhize, and Mandla Mchunu**, left for Zambia on 02<sup>nd</sup> July 2009 after a month long end of the year holidays at their respective homes in our province.

**Fr. Gideon Sibanda**, way away from 26<sup>th</sup> June to 06<sup>th</sup> July to Zimbabwe on business.

**Fr. Christopher Eisentraut**, will leave in on 06<sup>th</sup> August 2009 till 07<sup>th</sup> November 2009 for home leave.

**Br. Konrad Diethei**, will leave in September for a sabbatical overseas

**Fr. Vincent Mdabe**, will leave in September for a sabbatical overseas

#### 4] Ordinations

Fr. Lufeyo Mpaha and Nkosinathi Emmanuel Dlamini were ordain deacons by Bishop Sthembele Sipuka of Mthatha at Zingisa Sports grounds, in Mthatha on 16<sup>th</sup> My 2009

#### 5] Centenary Celebrations

The centenary celebrations at Emaus took place on 23-24<sup>th</sup> May 2009 at Emaus mission led by Fr. Sylvester Namale and cardinal Wilfrid Napier, respectively.

Everything went well as planned and the provincial council would like to **thank everybody** who helped make it possible: namely, the CMM/CPS generalates, CMM/CPS Emaus Heritage Team, People of Emaus, Liturgy Commissions, Choirs, CMM/CPS Mariannahill and Umtata, Dioceses of Mariannill, Durban, Umtata and Umzimkulu who attended, Cardinal/Bishops, visitors, CMM/CPS from overseas, abroad and within the country.

Other celebrations took place at St. Francis College and at the Mariannahill Cathedral and later at the Cemetary led by Bishop Pius Mlungisi Dlungwane of Mariannahill.

Continue to pray and support similar celebrations elsewhere in honour of Abbot Francis.

#### 6] Transfers

**Fr. Musa Phillip Mchunu** has been tansfered to the Spanish Province with effect from 29<sup>th</sup> May 2009. He is now in the Monastery waiting for his Visa to Spain.

**Fr. Cremildo Ngovene** and **Fr. Raphael Chichava** have been transferred to the Spanish Province with effect from 29<sup>th</sup> May 2009. They will continue their studies in Spain. They are both in Mozambique applying for their Visas.

**Fr. Donatus Ndwalane** has been transferred from Ezingolweni Mission to Queensburgh/Bellair . He will be Priest-in-Charge and assisted by Fr. Mthembeni Dlamini.

**Fr. Thulani Mokoena** has been transferred from eBongani Mission, Witbank Diocese to Ezingolweni Mission in Umzimkulu Diocese. He will be supervised by Fr. Henry Kanjo.

## 7] Annual Retreat

Our annual retreat will take place from 06<sup>th</sup> September 2009 till 11<sup>th</sup> September 2009 at Coolock House and will be given by Bishop Fritz Lobinger.

Please respond in time to facilitate the bookings early.

## 8] Monastery Farm

The monastery farm committee submitted a proposal to the provincial council on who will run the farm.

The council endorsed a proposal that the EtheKwini Municipality(Durban City Council) be given priority to use the farm. The council has contracted a Dr. Smit and company, agriculturists who are specialised on SOYA bean processing.

They will plant soya bean on the farm and process SOY milk in the existing pasteurising cow milk machines.

The idea to lease the farm to the city council is seen as a way of solving many problems which the monastery would encounter with the local people.

One must understand that the city council falls under the local government and implicitly the local government is for the ordinary citizens. Therefore one assumes or expect that the ordinary/local people will respect the farm and its future use since the land is given back to them through the city council.

The formal activities on the farm stopped and Br. Konrad will leave the farm soon.

I would like to thank him and the farm team for the difficult work they undertook to reach this decision.

## 8] Condolences

Our condolences go to the following confreres:

**Fr. Mthokozisi Khumalo**, who lost a cousin in a domestic squabble shootout

**Deacon Nkosinathi Dlamini**, who lost his mother through long time illness

**Fr. Joseph Steger** who lost his brother Carl.

## 10] The Tailoring

**Br. Erich Schurpf** retired from the tailoring department of the monastery and **Br. John Omalla** is now managing the department.

## 11] Hospital

The following confreres have been in and out of hospital for various illness,

Fr. Benjamin Malapane, had undergone a successful operation at Westville Hospital

Fr. Gaspard Parent, had undergone a successful operation at Westville Hospital

### **12] Vocation Team**

The vocation team held a weekend workshop at St. Michaels Mission Ndonyane, from 03-05<sup>th</sup> July 2009. Fr. Mthembeni Dlamini, the Vocations Director led the workshop, assisted by other young CMM confreres. Our kind thanks to the team for the vocations building. We ask confreres to be open to the team for visitations.

### **13] Next Provincial Council Meeting**

Will take place on the 28<sup>th</sup> July 2009 at Mariannahill Monastery.

### **14] Ixopo District**

This district's meeting will take place on Wednesday 05<sup>th</sup> August 2009, 09:30am, at Sea Park Parish, South Coast.

All the MEMBERS are invited to attend.

### **15] Congratulations**

Our congratulations go to Fr. Leonard Ndabenhle Mncwabe, who was appointed Vicar General for Umzimkulu Diocese

Fr. Mthembeni Dlamini, who was appointed Chaplain for Sodality of Mary and Ikhwezi for the Archdiocese of Durban.

### **16] New e-mail address**

The new **official** e-mail address for the provincial's office is:

[provincial.mmi@gmail.com](mailto:provincial.mmi@gmail.com)

Please note that I have never used the previous e-mail of the provincial's office and if you had sent e-mails that need my attention please re-send them to the above address.

Please also note that the fax number for the same office **031 700 3838** has not been in operation for the last few years, and therefore should you need to send non-confidential faxes send them through the monastery on **031 700 3113**. A confidential one can be sent after an arrangement with me to pick it personally at the monastery office.

### **17] Emaus Heritage Papers(booklets)**

Please buy *(for a nominal price of R10.00)* and support these booklets which are published by the Emaus Heritage Centre. These are the simplest, easy reading and understanding articles on Abbot Francis, and Mariannahill Past, Present and Future. Please make an effort to get one they are in series namely:

- a) no. 1 January 2009, **In memory of Abbot Francis Pfanner(1825-1909), His last days, death and burial**, by **Sr. M. Annette Buschgerd CPS**
- b) no. 2 March 2009, **Stations of the Cross, meditations on the life of Abbot Francis Pfanner**

- c) no. 3 May 2009, **The birth of the congregation and Mariannahill 1909-Quo Vadis?**, Two centenary talks, by **Fr. Henry Ratering CMM**
- d) no. 4 July 2009, **For the Sake of Silence**, a critical perspective, by **Sr. M. Annette Buschgerd CPS**

### **18] Mariannahill as a Centre**

The provincial council and the monastery council are currently discussing Mariannahill as a Centre, alternatively called Master Plan for Mariannahill(Monastery). Please note that committees or commissions will be established and when you are approached to be a member of any, please do not hesitate to accept as this is your support to the province and congregations which you belong to.

You are also invited to submit in writing any ideas which you think are important and relevant. Only positive ideas will be considered.

### **19] Identity Documents**

The provincial office requests that all members of the province submit front-page copies of your Identity Documents or Passports where your photos are sealed. These are needed to be attached to your personal provincial files for documentation purposes.

### **20] Private Bank Accounts**

All members with private bank accounts must declare them to the Provincial's Office. Currently, there are problems with banks and some family members when a member dies without any declaration with the office.

I wish you all fruitful celebrations as you continue to build better hearts, Fields and Homes,

**Sylvester Namale CMM**  
**Provincial Superior**