

From the Provincial Office
Information sheet # 3

- 1.0 Our confreres on home leave are doing well. Fr. Jank had his hearing-aid upgraded and so will have less problem to follow our conversation. Fr. Ignatius wrote, from Switzerland, that Fr. Clemens went to the doctors there and they said that his Pinetown doctors are more than good. So no worry. He has the proper medication. Fr. Ngadi is helping in his home parish and doing pastoral work as well in other parts of the diocese he comes from. He enjoys it – he wrote -.
- 2.0 Fr. Abulala will be flying back to SA on July 02. He will stay a little at M’hill and then come to Mthatha. Since he will be going on home leave later this year, talks are going on with the Bishop to see how he could be part time working for the Diocese. Things will be clearer once Abulala is back.
- 3.0 Fr. Stefan Mandl is in Mariazell and will remain there for a while. He works with Sr. Eva to put order in the office of the Manager and also works with Nicholas Leaka and Dijo Matsoso in the parish. To replace Fr. Stefan as Superior at AFH, Fr. Bernard Gathu was appointed interim-Superior while doing his normal work in the Postulancy.
- 4.0 Regarding Fr. Ernest: The latest information regarding the investigation tells us that it is a slow and careful process. Inspector Jonase, in charge of the investigation, tells us that it is progressing. There are things to be learned from Fr. Ernest’s death. The first is that we have to be aware, really aware about security. We have to share our mis-adventures and inform those we live with and not keep them for ourselves. The second thing we have to become aware off is that, if working with bank accounts, everything has to be clear: (a) signatories (b) up-to-date files. If there are other bank accounts, information should be in the personal file of the confrere. When all these elements are known, problems are avoided.
- 5.0 Since there will be visitors from Austria coming to SA in September, we have asked Fr. Stefan Mandl and Br. Georg to make sure the grave of Fr. Ernest is ok. The personal effects of Fr. Ernest have been collected by Fr. Winfried and Fr. Guy and brought to Mthatha. Clothing has been distributed among confreres and his books are still in boxes. Photos albums and other personal items will be shown to his family member(s) coming in September. If they want to bring some back to Austria, they will be most welcome.
- 6.0 I have also asked Br. Stefan Frommelt to render the graves of Fr. Roman and Fr. Bernard at the Bedford Cemetery more presentable.
- 7.0 During the winter holidays, our confreres from Merrivale are gaining some pastoral experience. Deacons Nicholas Leaka and Dijo Matsoso in Mariazell accompanied by Fr. Stefan Mandl while Frt. Raphael Arop is doing youth work in the Landsend-Bedford Parishes guided by Fr. Cas. Frt. George Mukua remained at Merrivale because he has a clinical course to follow. While in Bulawayo, Fr. Gathu brought back information saying that in the future we will be asked to provide opportunities for pastoral work for the Merrivale confreres coming from Zimbabwe and Zambia during the winter holidays.
- 8.0 The confreres in charge of different sections of our animation as CMM (Mthatha) will be asked next week to get organized so that their respective section is really

launched: (a) regional meetings (b) planning & development (c) mission animation (d) vocation team, etc.. Each section is vital for proper and effective work.

- 9.0 Fr. Bernard Gathu has informed us about his meeting in Bulawayo. It is important that, at the regional meetings, this information be discussed so that appropriate action and reaction be taken.
- 10.0 Bedford Project: The project has been approved by the Congregation Finance Commission but the funds have not been made available yet. So we are waiting for this to happen before we start to develop Bedford. Some minor jobs have still to be completed on the renovation of the old laundry. Br. Stefan has been asked to cut some trees that are too close to the flat occupied at the present by Bedford parish. He will also cut some trees near the old laundry to make place for a parking area. A new security fence has been erected.
- 11.0 Fr. Bernard Gathu and Fr. Moris Msuya are involved in the new pastoral unit that includes the Cathedral parish & Southridge parish. The team of priests serving this large area includes also Fr. Hormisdas Kasule (in charge of both parishes) Fr. Majingolo (assistant) and Fr. Guy Cloutier. Fr. Bernard will be in charge of faith education (catechesis), Frs. Moris and Guy will be involved in High Schools and University campuses while Fr. Majingolo will be in charge of youth work. Frs. Bernard, Moris and Guy are part-timers in this endeavor.
- 12.0 Fr. Victor Tambala has asked for a 3rd year of exclaustation. The situation of Br. John Mpambe is being looked at and a solution searched. Br. Stewart Kaupa is also facing special problems that are looked at by the General Government. Let us keep these confreres in our prayers for a positive outcome.
- 13.0 A few days ago, I send to all the Provincials and to Fr. Rohring a request asking for help for two positions regarding Mariazell: (a) Manager of the boarding section and (b) electrical 'engineer' since Br. Georg would like to retire from Mariazell. Hopefully we will receive some answers. To have more information regarding Mariannahill, Fr. Rohring manages a web page < www.mariannahill.org >
- 14.0 At the funerals of Fr. Ernest, Br. Maurizio Langa took a lot of photos that are now on a CD available at the Provincial Office.
- 15.0 Fr. Chrisanthu Muteshi has received his visa for Australia and intends to leave from Kenya during the first half of July.

Thank you for reading these items of information. If I have forgotten anything, please remind me and forward information to the Office. (Friday, July 03, 2009)

God bless
Guy Cloutier