

Duquesne University

Duquesne Scholarship Collection

CSSP Newsletter

CSSP Newsletter and Spiritan News

10-20-1973

CSSP Newsletter-No.39 (1973)

Congregation of the Holy Ghost Fathers

Follow this and additional works at: <https://dsc.duq.edu/cssp-news>

Repository Citation

Congregation of the Holy Ghost Fathers. (1973). CSSP Newsletter-No.39 (1973). Retrieved from <https://dsc.duq.edu/cssp-news/39>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the CSSP Newsletter and Spiritan News at Duquesne Scholarship Collection. It has been accepted for inclusion in CSSP Newsletter by an authorized administrator of Duquesne Scholarship Collection.

CSSP - NEWSLETTER - CSSP

Congregazione dello Spirito Santo

Clivo di Cinna, 195 - 00136 Roma

OCTOBER 1973

27A-52-7

No. 39

CONTENTS

	<u>pages</u>
<u>News from Rome:</u>	1-2
<u>Decisions of the Holy See:</u>	2
<u>Provinces and Districts:</u> Holland, France, Auteuil,	2-6
<u>Mission News:</u> Senegal, Angola, Zaire, East Africa (AMECEA), Kenya, Brazil, Amazonia	6-10
<u>Varia:</u>	10-12
<u>Our dead:</u>	12

NEWS FROM ROME:

The Pope's message for Mission Sunday

In view of the approaching World Mission Day on October 21st next, the Holy Father's message to the faithful on the 20th July, took as theme: MISSIONARY RENEWAL IN THE PERSPECTIVE OF THE HOLY YEAR. ".....The theme of renewal and the reconciliation of men with God and with one another must henceforth arouse interest, reflection, and initiative both in the Churches with an older Christian tradition and in the younger Churches in mission countries....Renewal must surely include the renewal of the Church's missionary spirit since reconciliation must certainly be among the ultimate aims of her work of evangelization. Is not reconciliation the most outstanding feature which outlines, defines and reveals "conversion"?"

Pope Paul VI expressed concern at the decline in vocations and suggested some reasons for this decline. He then went on to deal with relations between local clergy and foreign missionaries. He paid tribute first of all to the missionaries who "have accomplished wonders in laying the foundations on which rest the existence and autonomy of the young Churches ... For quite some time yet, the African and Asiatic countries will need missionaries..." Collaboration between local and foreign personnel is indispensable and should be the expression of ecclesial communion. However, problems have arisen because vocations are few and those now staffing the works are getting older.

For this reason," We renew our call to Our Brothers in the Episcopate that they give serious consideration to the possibility of sending priests from their dioceses so that the numbers may thus be better distributed in the different Churches. This is an aspect of pastoral programming which is already necessary and which is not confined by national or regional boundaries. Future canonical legislation will facilitate this distribution.

"We likewise appeal for promotion of local vocations. May they be provided with an adequate training and never allowed to

suffocate for economic or social background reasons. No vocation must be lost, no vocation must remain undecided, none must fail to reach maturity for want of means! Here we touch upon another aspect of the problem. The young Churches, for the most part, share the conditions of poverty and economic insecurity of the peoples among whom they accomplish their mission. Consequently all Christians have the duty to help and do justice to the priests, Sisters, Brothers and catechists who labour with little means or with none for the welfare of their fellow citizens....."

To counteract these pressing needs, there is ground for hope: faith in God, because the Cause of the Gospel and His Cause are one; the generosity of young people who go to bring help to the missions; "twinning" between old and new Churches; ecumenical contacts with missionaries of other ecclesial communions; the activities of the Pontifical Missionary Works who are at the service of the Pope and the bishops and are particularly well equipped for fostering missionary spirit among God's People.

At the end of his message, the Holy Father placed Mission Sunday in the perspective of the forthcoming Holy Year and also under the protection of St. Thérèse of the Child-Jesus, the centenary of whose birth we celebrate this year.

.....

DECISIONS OF THE HOLY SEE:

Appointments of interest to Provinces and Districts:

- Cardinal Maurice OTUNGA, archbishop of Nairobi, has been appointed member of the Sacred Congregation for the Discipline of the Sacraments. He has also been re-elected President of the Episcopal Conference of Kenya.
- Cardinal Emile BIAYENDA, archbishop of Brazzaville (Congo), has been appointed member of the Sacred Congregation for the Clergy.
- On July 5th, 1973, the Holy Father appointed Father Urbanus KIOKO, of the secular clergy, to the post of Bishop of Machakos (Kenya). Previously Fr. Kioko had been Parish Priest of the cathedral of this diocese.
- On August 29th, the Holy Father accepted the resignation, for reasons of ill health, of Most Rev. Thomas MONGO, from the direction of the diocese of Douala (Cameroon).
- Most Rev. Lorenzo ANTONETTI, titular Archbishop of Roselle has been appointed Pro-Apostolic Nuncio to the Republic of Zaïre.
- Most Rev. Luciano STORERO, titular Archbishop of Tigima, has been appointed Pro-Apostolic Nuncio to the Cameroon and Gabon, and Apostolic Delegate to Equatorial Guinea.
- Mgr. Léon DIOUF, Vicar-General of Dakar (Senegal), has been appointed a Consultor to the Secretariat for non-believers.
- On July 10th, Mgr. Pietro ROSSANO was appointed Secretary of the Secretariat for non-christians.
- On June 27th, Father Roger LE DEAULT C.S.Sp., was appointed member of the Secretariat for non-christians.

.....

HOLLAND

Provincial Chapter

The Province of Holland held its Chapter from the 14th to the 26th May at Gemert. 29 members took part, 13 of whom are missionaries in Bangui, the Cameroon, the Congo, Angola, Bagamoyo, Central Brazil and Amazonia. The average age of the members was about 46. The different groups in the Province were represented: the communities, the confreres who do pastoral work in Holland and Germany, young and old. Fr. K. Houdijk represented the General Administration.

The Chapter had been very well prepared by means of several surveys, the findings of which were drafted in the preparatory

documents. A considerable amount of useful information was made available as a result of these preparations.

The Chapter was under the direction of a central committee of four members who were assisted by an expert on group dynamics who co-ordinated the work, chaired the debates and summed up the proceedings at the end of each day.

For two weeks, the members of the Chapter dealt with five main themes: the missionary task today, religious life, social welfare, finance and administrative structures.

In the discussion on missionary problems, the point was clearly made that the basic task here must be the promotion of dialogue between the local Churches. All our missionary policy, both in Europe and the Third World, should promote mutual exchange. It is in this context that disengagement and re-engagement should be studied. The Provincial Council was asked to assist the Principal Superiors in finding new fields for missionary work. Particular attention was given to the question of young confreres, so as to guarantee their future as missionaries. In connection with the return of missionaries to Europe, discussion centred on the apostolate to marginal groups and foreign workers. The formation of Christian communities and consequently the training of people to take charge of this, were considered to be the first priority. Regular training and refresher courses for the confreres must therefore be undertaken in the light of this, without however neglecting dialogue with the local Church. "Ongoing training" was listed second among the financial priorities. In connection with the International Funding Organisations, a proposal was made to the Provincial Council that it should encourage the drawing up of a new set of objectives and criteria. In order to foster missionary animation, reference was made to the idea of "the mission in six continents" and to the difficult situation in the Third World in so far as the root causes of this situation can be traced back to Holland too.

About two days were devoted to the subject of religious life. It was considered that reflection, prayer and community life are values which deserve more attention from the confreres. At the same time, there is more need for genuine pluriformity which demands active toleration from everyone. The community was seen as a centre of communion, first of the confreres among themselves, and then in the wider context of the community in which they live.

The discussion on social welfare dealt mainly with our older confreres. The Provincial Council should give more explicit attention to this group. Pension funds were first in the list of financial priorities. This list, indeed, gave rise to some discussion. Still included in it are: funds to aid Dutch Principal Superiors in their task of animation, vacation money for confreres on holiday, temporary grants for new missionary projects and assistance for missionaries who have difficulty in supporting themselves.

Tribute was paid to the financial department of the Province, with particular commendation from the missionaries for its good work in giving them the opportunities for a real vacation, refresher courses and sessions.

In the matter of administration, the Chapter opted for a collegial structure, but called for deeper and more personal relations between the Provincial team, the communities and the confreres of the Province.

The Chapter also had the duty of electing the members of the Provincial administration. The out-going team was re-elected by a large majority: Fr. A. BIEMANS as Provincial, Fr. Th. GOOSSENS for relations with the Districts, Fr. J. HOGEMA for training and missionary animation work in Holland, Fr. A. VAN ROOY for personnel in Europe and Fr. J. CROESE for finance. At the same time, the Chapter decided that the team should be assisted by 3 work committees, for finance, missionary problems and

The rediscovery of a particular style of community life is seen as necessary for the educational environment. This style of life would involve a tendency towards more real integration in the human and ecclesial environment, an orientation towards life in small groups, an effort to make contact with the people among whom one is to work, an openness to various kinds of ministry, a conscious awareness of a deepening of faith and powers of reflection. Consequently, proposals were made that the training centres should make the necessary changes along these lines.

5) Consecrated Laymen (Brothers).

The Chapter sought a precise definition of this category of religious: what characterizes a Brother is the evangelical nature of his life, not that he belongs to a particular social class. He bears witness to Christ by carrying out his work with competence and by taking his place in the overall apostolate of the local Church. He does his training in several stages: juniorate, some experience in actual working conditions, a tour on the missions, novitiate along with the clerics, and further technical training.

6) Higher education.

Present trends in the novitiate were approved. In addition, it was considered important that a Centre for Missionary training should be set up, which would be accessible to all who wish to deepen their reflection on the Missions and on what missionary life should be today.

7) Specialist studies.

It was acknowledged that there is a deficiency in this sphere. The Province must continue to invest as much as it possibly can, both in the sciences relating to an understanding of the faith, and also in the human and technical sciences.

8) Finally, the Chapter discussed matters concerning personnel in the Province: turnover of staff between the Province and the Districts, transfers to France, refresher courses and ongoing training, updating for Brothers, regional Superiors and Brother Provincial delegate.

On the occasion of the Chapter, a Spiritan congress took place in Chevilly on the 18th, 19th, and 20th July, to which all the confreres of the Province were invited. Missionaries on leave held their own meeting from the 22nd to the 25th August.

=====

AUTEUIL

The orphanage at Meudon

Certain difficulties which occurred in Meudon earlier this year, were written up by a certain section of the press as if a great "scandal" had been discovered. On the other hand, hundreds of past-pupils and people who know our houses, have sent letters and signatures to the General Director, to show that they are fully aware of the real objectives of this campaign and that we can count on their support. We quote here the following passages from a letter which was sent to a well-known weekly by the President of the Administrative Council of the work:

"....It should be remembered first of all, that Meudon is only one of the 22 houses involved in the Work, which for over a century, has educated and established in a profession tens of thousands of orphans or abandoned children. The training which it provides is of a standard which has never been questioned. For this reason, it is particularly unpleasant and disappointing to see certain incidents being exploited in such a way as to call into question the very principles on which the whole Work of the Apprentice Orphans of Auteuil is based.

"There has been no revolt of the students. There has been, it is true, a certain amount of agitation fostered by a

pseudo "supporting committee", with encouragement from elements outside the Work. The sole aim of this committee is to provoke disorder for motives completely opposed to the interest and happiness of the children. Is it really concern for the children's happiness which prompts the author of an article to condemn "the tyranny of another age which is part of the everyday life of the establishment?" "Meudon is a boarding-school for several hundred children who have been left deeply scarred by psycho-emotional and often dramatic experiences. The help which they are given, concurrently with their training for life, must very rightly be accompanied by a certain amount of discipline which alone can lead them to maturity. In an age when aggression and destruction are the keywords, we cannot allow the immense and dynamic Work of the Apprentice Orphans of Auteuil - work which involves now and will involve in the future, hundreds of thousands of children who have been abandoned by everyone - to be condemned on the basis of isolated localized occurrences which are of no importance but which have been magnified out of all proportion by people who are misinformed...."

MMMMMMMMMMMMMM

MISSION NEWS

SENEGAL "Afrique Nouvelle" to begin publication again.

Following on the decision of the bishops of French-speaking West Africa to resume publication of the weekly newspaper "Afrique Nouvelle", two important appointments have been made by Most Rev. THIANDOUM, archbishop of Dakar. The first is that of Father OLIGER, O.F.M. who is to be head of administration. A missionary in Togo, he was director of the Catholic newspaper of that country, "Présence Chrétienne", for 12 years. The second post is to be filled by Mr. DIALLO TAYIRE, a native of Guinea and a journalist, who will be Editor-in-chief.

oooooooooooooooooooo

ANGOLA Centenary of the mission at Landana.

In 1865, the Sacred Congregation for Propaganda entrusted to the Holy Ghost Fathers the mission of the ancient Kingdom of the Congo, which had formerly known an era of prosperity but was at that time steadily on the way down. The first Spiritans landed at Ambriz on the 14th March 1866, but as early as 1870, when three of them had already died, they were obliged to leave Angola. Other confreres got ready to replace them and in 1873, with the approval of the authorities in Rome, the Portuguese government and the Mother-House in Paris, an agreement was reached between Fr. DUPARQUET and Chief PESA MATENDA, authorizing the establishment of a mission at Landana. On the 25th July, Rev. Fr. I. SCHWINDENHAMMER, the Superior General, officially appointed 3 missionaries who, from this modest start, were to be instrumental in bringing about the renewal of evangelization in the two Congos: Fathers DUPARQUET and CARRIE, and Brother FORTUNAT.

The hundredth anniversary of this event has been solemnly commemorated. The programme featured: a military salute at dawn; at 8 o'clock, a procession with offerings for the mission; at 10 o'clock, mass in the open air during which deacon Fernando Henrique FERREIRA PINTO C.S.Sp., was ordained priest; later, the opening of the Landana town hall, the residence of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Cluny and the "Foyer Mgr. Moreira" which serves as a commemorative monument of the centenary. Fr. A. BRASIO C.S.Sp., historian of the Portuguese missions, retraced the history of the mission in a panegyric which is to be published. The ceremony was presided over by Most Rev. Manuel NUNES GABRIEL, archbishop of Luanda, who also conferred the sacrament of confirmation on a large number of faithful. On Sunday, the 29th July, Father

FERREIRA PINTO celebrated his first high mass, during which the singing was done in the 'fiote' language by the choral society of Lucula.

In this mission, thanks to the dedication of two local priests, there have been introductory courses "NOVA ET VETERA" twice a year since 1971, which aim at helping young people to adjust to modern developments without rejecting traditional values. The work is supported by a group of people from Luanda, in particular the school mistresses and pupils of the Pius XII Social Service Institute.

On the occasion of the centenary, the Episcopal Vicariate of Cabinda was created. The first to hold the office is Fr. José DA ROCHA FERREIRA, formerly Principal Superior of the District of Luanda, who is working at present in Landana, not far from the mission of Maiombe where he began his missionary work in 1951. Escolha feliz!

SSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSS

ZAIRE. Centre for Catechesis and rural animation in Katako.

In 1964, rebellion steeped the country in blood, in particular the region of Kindu which is in the centre. Afterwards, the Church obviously had to contribute its help to the work of rehabilitation. At the same time, the evangelization of this vast territory presented numerous pastoral problems. There are only 30 priests to serve the whole diocese and several parishes have had to be abandoned. The training of catechists was seen to be the best way to provide for essential needs. For these reasons, it was decided to start in Katako, a training centre for catechetics, agriculture, and rural life. Three types of complementary activities were suggested:

- 1) Catechetical activities: to give husband-and-wife teams of dynamic catechists from the villages, the opportunity of receiving a good christian and human training: on their return home, they could work at forming basic christian communities.
- 2) Agricultural activities: to improve production and by proper marketing, protect the villagers from being exploited. Encourage more rational and more profitable methods of breeding.
- 3) Social activities: in accordance with the real needs of the people and the requirements for full-scale community development, to secure the collaboration of the local population and the civil authorities; training of women and of the whole family.

At the end of 1972, the project as a whole came into being. The achievements included: the purchase of 64 acres of land; the building of 12 houses for the catechists and their families; a building with classrooms, office, dispensary and the necessary equipment; 3 houses for the managerial staff; a well with pump and water tower; a large shed for farm equipment; commercial vehicles, a piggery and two modern hen houses etc. The personnel, under the management of Fr. F.F. VLEESCHOUWERS, C.S.Sp., includes a teacher, a tropical agricultural economist, a veterinary surgeon, and two social workers from Zaïre.

- 1) Catechetical activities: 12 families of catechists live at the Centre. The children (averaging 4 per family), can do their studies at the primary school in Katako. The catechists are given classes in swahili on the bible, the liturgy, the Church and the pastoral needs of Africa at the present time. Together they look after the catechumenate in the village and take part in the Sunday ceremonies in neighbouring churches. They have

even built a chapel, of a type which they could easily copy for their own village if necessary.

2) Agricultural activities: theoretical and practical courses; small-scale gardening and the building of hen houses; the cultivation of soya beans in the school fields, a vegetable garden of 1,600 sq. metres; a plantation of fruit trees, banana trees, pineapples and fodder crops; the purchase of selected pigs and poultry. Moreover, very soon, there will also be rabbit breeding and fish ponds.

3) Social activities: the director of the Social Centre at Kindu has agreed to give a course to the catechists who, under his direction, will carry out a social survey in the village; at the Centre itself, a water supply has been made available by using materials from the region itself; those in charge of the Women's Centre have opened this Centre to the wives of the catechists and the workers at the Centre; one of them gives medical aid at the dispensary.

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

EAST AFRICA

Work in AMECEA

Since AMECEA was established in July, 1961 there has been a felt need for sharing information between the dioceses of Eastern Africa and for offering an on-going picture to the universal Church of developments in the Church in Eastern Africa. A new department, the AMECEA Documentation Service, has now been started to fill these two needs and Fr. Joseph KELLY, C.S.Sp., has been appointed its first director, with offices at Nairobi (P.O.Box 21400, Nairobi, Kenya).

Financed by funding partners overseas, the AMECEA Documentation Service is designed to exchange pastoral situations, experiences and initiatives between the dioceses of the AMECEA countries (Kenya, Malawi, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia) through the Secretariats of the five Episcopal Conferences, the Ordinaries the Major Seminaries, Gaba Pastoral Institute and the National Pastoral Institutes in Eastern Africa. The service shares information with the Universal Church through its funding partners, major Catholic News Agencies and other international information services.

Plans are moving ahead for the AMECEA Plenary Meeting to take place at St. Thomas Aquinas Regional Seminary, Langata, Nairobi, Kenya. The Business Meeting will be held on Friday, 7th December, 1973, and Saturday, 8th December, 1973. The Study Conference on "Planning for the Church in Africa in the 1980's" will be held from Monday, 10th December, 1973 to Friday, 14th December, 1973.

New forms of ministry and services in the Church in Eastern Africa have been under discussion for several years in the dioceses which make up the AMECEA area. The discussions have arisen due to the fact that the Catholic population is rising much faster than the foreseeable number of priests in these countries and because some of the christian communities are so scattered that they may never have a resident priest. There is also an on-going desire to determine what is the essential role of the ordained priest and what ministries and services can be carried out effectively and rightfully by others. To stimulate future planning for the Church in Eastern Africa, the Religious Superiors' Association of Tanzania in June of this year observed: "We must broaden the ministries which can be performed by the Christian laity and entrust these to them. We must use the Parish Councils, lay men and lay women, Catholic lay organisations, catechists, for example in teaching and preaching; giving the administration of

all sacraments (except the Mass, Penance and Confirmation) into the hands of catechists and responsible lay people."

KENYA.

Mission Correspondents.

It is felt that there is crying need for information on the missions in East Africa to be supplied regularly to various Missionary bodies and to the Generalate. Such information would certainly help to promote greater interest in the missions and revitalise mission awareness generally as well as reminding those concerned that the Spiritans in Kenya are deeply involved in the missions and in missionary endeavour. To meet this need the following Fathers have very kindly consented to act as correspondents and to forward to the Principal Superior, Fr. Paul Cunningham, details each month of missionary activities and other matters of interest:- NAIROBI: Fr. Brian Cronin, MOMBASA: Fr. Patrick Roe, MACHAKOS: Fr. James Moore. The co-operation of all in supplying data to these will be greatly appreciated.

(C.S.Sp. News. Kenya, 8-6-73)

A rare privilege.

By a solemn ceremonial ritual, Fr. Patrick SHERIDAN C.S.Sp. together with Cardinal Maurice OTUNGA, archbishop of Nairobi, had the rare privilege of being admitted into the ranks of the "Athure" or Elders of the Akikuyu tribe. The acceptance of an outsider into this important tribe is the supreme testimony of the Akikuyu people's appreciation and trust. "The acceptability of the missionary in the newly independent African society of today" writes Fr. John GANNON, C.S.Sp., "does not depend on either his racial background or the colour of his skin. It is measured by the quality of his service. Given the willingness and ability to serve, the missionary has a useful role to play in contemporary Africa and need not feel that he is a foreigner. The signal honour conferred by the Kikuyu people on their Cardinal and on an Irish priest is testimony to this assertion".

(OUTLOOK, Sept.73)

~~~~~

BRAZIL.

Conditions in the Brazilian Church.

According to official figures, Catholics represent more than 90% of the Brazilian population but they suffer from a serious lack of religious assistance. The population of Brazil has doubled in 15 years, while the number of priests has remained almost static. In 1970, there were 13,152 priests (8,066 religious and 5,086 secular), 40% of whom were foreigners. The senior seminarists who numbered 1,700 in 1961 were only 813 in 1970.

In spite of the alarming statistics and the inevitable difficulties - which are those of the post-conciliar age - the future is being faced with optimism. In the course of a collective interview during which they announced the convening of the recent General Assembly, the leaders of the Brazilian bishops were in a position to say: "We cannot hide the joy we feel in our hearts on witnessing the Church flourish once more in our country." The most significant reason for this optimism is the active engagement of the laity in the pastoral activity of the Church and their willingness to become thus involved.

The Brazilian bishops intend pastoral work there to be directed towards the training of basic communities: "As for the basic communities, we realize more and more the need for them and their value. Today, pastoral work which caters only for large numbers is no longer enough. It must be completed and deepened in small groups capable of taking on long-term community responsibilities." With this basic objective in mind, the

tendency is "to create opportunities and conditions such as will promote the emergence of an active laity in the local Churches of Brazil and at the same time foster vocations for the various ministries in the ecclesial community." (Ass. CNBB, Feb. 1973).

In this perspective the role of the priest is seen to be essential in order to promote the new forms of ministry. In places where the priesthood is declining, the lay movement in turn also begins to weaken. (AIMIS, 276)

Missionaries for Amazonia.

Amazonia is attracting general interest but it is strange that the news reports on it hardly ever refer to the missionary aspect, i.e. the work of evangelization carried out by the missionaries, the presence of the Church and its contribution in assisting the populations who live there and are composed entirely of Indians. In a country like Brazil, where the percentage of Catholics is the highest in the world, this silence may indicate a lack of missionary conscience. In fact, the majority of bishops in Amazonia have been entrusted to religious from abroad while only a few are held by Brazilians. Nevertheless, there are signs, particularly among the bishops, of a missionary interest and of positive responses to the Church's appeals. It was this which made possible the founding by a Salesian Father of the movement "INTERNATIONAL AND BRAZILIAN VOLUNTEERS FOR AMAZONIA (VIBRA)", the aim of which is to recruit lay-missionaries who will help to develop this region. The volunteers must be technically qualified for the work they have to do and must be prepared to adapt to the environment where they will have to live and work. In addition, it is essential that they should be able to give genuine evidence of service to the Church. The candidates are carefully selected and must follow a training course. The headquarters of VIBRA used to be in Rio de Janeiro, near the Brazilian Episcopal Conference; they have recently been transferred to Belem de Parà, in the North of the country. This new venture inspires much hope. (OS.ROM. 4-V-73)

The Brazilian government is deeply involved at present in a large-scale development scheme for Amazonia, with a view to integrating this immense region into national and international life. This scheme includes a road network, the major route of which will be the Transamazonian Highway, at present under construction. The Catholic organization "AID FOR THE CHURCH IN NEED", is considering the possibility of sending 110 lorries, (3 to 5 tons), to the missionaries who are working in the various dioceses. These vehicles have been offered by the Swiss CARITAS, which has undertaken also to provide technical assistance, spare parts and to train drivers and mechanics. (AIMIS 275)

WWWWWWWWWWWWWWWWWWWWWWWWWWWWWW

VARIA.

VIIIth Theology Week at Kinshasa

The VIIIth Theology Week at Kinshasa (Zaire) which was held from the 23rd to the 30th July, took as theme: "Ministries and Services in the Church." Approximately 120 people took part. In his opening speech Cardinal MALULA stressed that during the week the emphasis should be on pastoral matters. He expressed the hope that the need for new ministries would be faced with courage, in an attempt to counteract the steep fall in the number of vocations. He also asked for imagination and resoluteness on the part of the African clergy. An open and creative atmosphere was very evident throughout the whole of the week.

Many members of the conference intervened on the subject of the three main themes of the week: the priesthood, the lay-apostolate, the religious life. What they had to say concerned mainly the pressing needs of the African Churches. In fact, the

structures worked out, whether in the East or the West, in specifically historical contexts, correspond less and less to the real needs of the young African Churches in search of their own identity. What is wanted for these Churches is a type of priest, layman, religious, nun, who is not merely a European transplant.

At the end of the week, a series of decisions, proposals and resolutions were passed. In particular, there was a call to eliminate the present system of a privileged class of priests and community leaders, standing apart from the laity who have no say in Church matters, and to replace it by a new structure of ministries in the Church. Ordinary Christians should be ordained in order to assure the Eucharistic presence in the communities which have been entrusted to them. Women should have a part in the new ministries.

Posts of responsibility and leadership should be given to the African clergy. Missionaries should therefore gradually move out of these posts and get involved in regions where the Church is not yet sufficiently well established. There should be more dialogue between the African bishops who would need to keep their priests better informed about the life of the Church. In addition the African Churches must by degrees try to manage without financial aid from abroad. A ministry of African Christian thought, and the training of responsible people for the new ministries were seen as being essential if Africanisation is to be effectively realised. (LUMIERE 12-8-73)

-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o

#### International Stewardship Seminar.

An International Stewardship Seminar will be held at the Propagation of the Faith Philosophical College Rome from the 1st to the 5th October. By Christian Stewardship is meant the appreciation, the care, development and return by man of God-given gifts. The Seminar will be jointly sponsored by the U.S. National Catholic Rural Life Conference (International Affairs Dept.), Catholic Relief Services, and the National Catholic Stewardship Council. The objectives of the Seminar are:

1. To assist missionaries to educate and motivate people in developing countries towards self-development and self-support of the local Church.
2. To promote a spirit of mutual sharing of all human and material resources between the Church in developing and developed countries.
3. To intensify the apostolic activity of the laity.
4. To present the biblical, historical, and theological foundation of Christian Stewardship from Catholic and non-Catholic sources.
5. To expand and explain the implications of Vatican Council II's statement on Stewardship.
6. To provide a forum for sharing of successful Stewardship practices and techniques from developing and developed countries.
7. To promote a follow-up educational programme in Christian Stewardship on the regional and local basis, in developing and developed countries.

Mgr. L. G. LIGUTTI, chairman of the Seminar, stated: "We're not out to set up detailed social action programmes, although our pooled experiences and ideas will certainly make for some concrete suggestions on how to apply principles of Stewardship in the local Churches. But what we really want to achieve with the International Stewardship Seminar is to focus on the 'People of God' - the Church. We want to motivate people toward building their own truly Christian communities; we want to widen the understanding and acceptance of Christian Stewardship - the voluntary and proportionate sharing of time, ability and material resources - as a true act of worship. We want to start a little

snowball that will roll a long way."

Sessions will be conducted simultaneously in English, French and Italian. For further information contact: International Stewardship Seminar, c/o AGRIMISSIO, Palazzo San Callisto, 00120 Città del Vaticano.

(Fides, 1-9-73)

+++++ OUR DEAD +++++

- Father John C. PERGL, of the Province of the U.S.A. East, died in Pittsburgh, on 11 June 1973, at the age of 55 years. He had been professed 34 years. (34)
- Father William BOLGER, of the District of S.E.Brazil, died in Dublin, on 15 June 1973, at the age of 33 years. He had been professed 13 years. (35)
- Father Thomas McENNIS, of the Province of Ireland, died in Dublin, on 15 June 1973, at the age of 73 years. He had been professed 46 years. (36)
- Father Joseph TROESCH, of the District of Luanda, died in Strasbourg, 15-6-73, aged 65, after 45 years of profession. (37)
- Brother EMMANUEL CARRE, of the Province of France, died at Chevilly, 25-6-73, aged 60, after 41 years of profession. (38)
- Father Paul VERMEYLEN, of the Province of Belgium, died at Nijlen, 28-6-73, aged 79, after 59 years of profession. (39)
- Father Jeremiah LYNCH, of the Province of Ireland, died in Dublin, 1-7-73, aged 73, after 51 years of profession. (40)
- Father Michael O'QUIGLEY, of the Province of Ireland, died in Dublin, 4-7-73, aged 57, after 37 years of profession. (41)
- Father Jacques STRICK, of the Province of Holland, died in Anvers, 4-7-73, aged 70, after 48 years of profession. (42)
- Father Jean OBARSKI, of the Vice-Province of Poland, died in Cieladz, 13-7-73, aged 61, after 36 years of profession. (43)
- Father Joseph Jean MORVAN, of the Province of Canada, died in Gourin (France), 16-7-73, aged 61, after 44 years of profession. (44)
- Father Louis MAYOR, of the District of Yaoundé, died in Yaoundé 19-7-73, aged 53, after 32 years of profession. (45)
- Father Martin LUCZKIEWICZ, of the Province of U.S.A. East, died in Pittsburgh, 27-7-73, aged 87 years, after 61 years of profession. (46)
- Father Joseph Louis MORVAN, of the Province of France, died in Langonnet, 28-7-73, aged 65, after 45 years of profession. (47)
- Brother TEODORO MACHADO, of the District of Nova Lisboa, died 3-8-73, aged 63, after 43 years of profession. (48)
- Father François STENGER, of the Province of France, died at Saverne, 7-8-73, aged 60, after 40 years of profession. (49)
- Father Albert SCHMITT senior, of the Province of France, died at WOLXHEIM, 12-8-73, aged 82, after 59 years of profession. (50)
- Father James RYAN, of the Province of Trinidad, died in Dublin, on 14 August 1973, at the age of 59 years. He had been professed 34 years. (51)
- Father James P. KELLY, of the Province of U.S.A. East, died in Philadelphia, on 17 August 1973, at the age of 68 years. He had been professed 31 years. (52)
- Father Charles GRUNER, of the District of Bangui, died at Turckheim (France), on 25 August 1973, at the age of 74 years. He had been professed 52 years. (53)
- Father Pierre BURNER, of the Province of France, died in Paris, on 3 September 1973, at the age of 37 years. He had been professed 17 years. (54)