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## Home and Away

Francis Ndelemani

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## Two deacons ordained in Malawi

Francisco Ndelemani CSSp

Saturday, July 14th was a joyful day for Spiritans working in Malawi — two confreres were ordained deacons. The pleasant weather drew together many people from all regions of Malawi to join the outdoor ceremony in the grounds of Limbe Cathedral, Blantyre.

The Blantyre deanery choir and the ululating vocal music made for a joyful atmosphere as Antony Golombe CSSp, Mzama parish, Dedza Diocese, and Witness Mbulanje CSSp, Chingadzi parish, Archdiocese of Blantyre were so glad to respond “Here I Am” to God’s call. Their positive answer to work in the vineyard of the Lord challenges today’s youth, whom Christ is relying upon to complete his work in the Church and the entire world.

Antony’s and Witness’s ordination as servants of God, reminds young men that they too are responsible to answer the call of the Lord. This call comes in a soft voice leaving room for reflection before arriving at a mature decision. The two deacons have been called from among us to serve God in a special way. They place their trust in Him that their work will be fruitful. God is asking them to leave behind their cultures, tribes and countries to go to the ends of the earth and proclaim the Good News of Salvation and preach the message of Justice and Peace. Each one of us is called by God — we too need to listen to the voice of the Lord and follow his ways.

In his homily, Archbishop Tarcisius Ziyaye told the deacons to be good shepherds and to take Jesus Christ as their role model: “Let love and care be your priorities as you lead Christ’s people in their daily life. Let your daily work be to preach the word of God from the Bible and bring the word of God to those who have never or scarcely ever heard the Gospel of Christ. Keep in mind that other sheep are not of this



Deacon Antony Golombe escorted by his parents to the altar.

fold — hence work with passion and zeal among them and bring them also to Christ.”

The Archbishop continued by pointing out that deacons are trained in Philosophy and Theology. So, the knowledge they have acquired has to be put into practice as they gently lead people into the fold of Christ. The Archbishop thanked the Spiritans for the good work they are doing in his diocese and throughout Malawi.

Fr Akunne Donatus thanked the Archbishop for being a welcoming parent to the Spiritans working in Malawi and promised him that they will work hard to promote vocations to priesthood through the Congregation of the Holy Spirit. ■



Robert di Nardo (second from right) renews his vows as a Spiritan for a further three years accompanied by his family and Fr Bob Colburn, Provincial.