

NUNTIA

Congregation of the Mission

July 2015



Activities of the Superior General

Fr. Gary Mueller, CM



The Region of Kenya gladly welcomed Fr. Gregory Gay, CM for a visit from Thursday, July 2 to Monday, July 6, 2015. On Thursday morning, Fr. Gay visited Mrs. Lucy Kayiwa and the members of the Society of St. Vincent DePaul working in the Kibera slum in the heart of Nairobi. The group runs St. Vincent's Nursery School for children who live in the slums and whose parents are HIV positive. The Congregation owns the house and provides financial support. He also visited their Rescue House that provides a home like atmosphere for homeless and abandoned children. At his next stop at St. Vincent DePaul Parish – Kamulu, Fr. Chrisandus Ambale, CM, the Father-in-Charge, Fr. Nicholas Kaloki, CM and Rev. Mr. Humphrey Makokha, CM, greeted him. They gave Fr. Gay a tour of the new rectory under construction, the recently completed water tower, and the proposed site for the new parish primary school.



On Friday, Fr. Gay took a flight to Kitale in Western Kenya near the border of Uganda. He visited a new work of the Congregation, St. Kizito – Matisi staffed by Fr. Joseph Namanda, CM, Fr. Dominic Ngangah, CM, And Deacon John Bosco Odongo, CM. The parish and its outstations are located next to the Falkland slums, a place where the main source of income is illegal brewing and the primary preoccupation is drinking and alcohol addiction. The Daughters of Charity at the house across the street, Nyote Asubuhi, hosted the

Superior General and the confreres for dinner after the celebration of the Eucharist.

After this, the Father General returned to DePaul Centre – Nairobi on Saturday. Brother James Donlevy, CM and Fr. George Busieka, CM with the confreres at DePaul Centre threw a traditional American 4th of July party complete with barbecued hot dogs, hamburgers, and potato salad. Early Sunday morning, the Father General set out for central Kenya to St. Vincent Parish – Giathugu in the shadow of Mount Kenya. The parish, administered by Fr. Alex

Isonga, CM with assistance from Fr. Samuel Ngasike and Deacon Edwin Mugwe, CM, caters to poor subsistence farmers. There he celebrated mass at the outstations in a combination of Kikuyu and English, toured the facilities, and met with parish leaders. Upon his return, he shared dinner with the Daughters of Charity at Chanzo, their regional house in Nairobi. Both the Vincentians and the Daughters are grateful for his visit. On Monday morning, July 6, he departed for his next destination – Tanzania.

Ordination of four Tanzanian Confreres

9th July 2015, was indeed a happy day for Tanzanian mission, as on this day four our deacons, were ordained as priests. The newly ordained priests are; Fr. Emmanuel Sylvester Haule, Fr. Pastory Emmanuel Mushi, Fr. Ahadi Victory Mgedzi and Fr. John Herman Kimboi. Two of them namely; Fr. Ahadi, and Fr. Emmanuel come from the diocese of Njombe Fr. Pastory comes from the diocese of Moshi and Fr. Jhon comes from the diocese of Mbeya.



His Excellence Rev Damian Dallus ordained them in our parish at Bombambily, the Arch Bisop of Songea. The presence of Superior General Rev. Fr. Gregory Gay, and Rev. Fr. Mathew Onatt, the provincial of South India province, Rev. Fr. Gary the Regional superior of Kenya solemnized the occasion. The parish of Bombambily, with the cooperation of the confreres took the lead in arranging the celebration

So now with these latest ordinations, in Tanzania we have a total of eleven Tanzanian confreres: ten priests and one brother. And the total number of confreres from India are ten. This is a clear sign of the fast growth of this mission. Thus, we the confreres who are and who were in the mission, have all the reason to be happy about our work in Tanzania Mission.

Vincentian Family Meet in Tanzania



7th July 2015, in the presence of Rev. Fr. Gregory Gay, the representatives of the different branches of Vincentian family in Tanzania had a gathering at De Paul Seminary Morogoro. Fr. Gregory as, head of the Vincentian family, exhorted the members to live and work in the true Vincentia spirit. Two of the major Vincentian families working in Tanzania are Vincentian sisters Mbinga and Vincentian sisters of Mitindu. They belong to Federation of Vincentian Sisters of Charity of Strasbourg, which has fourteen different groups of Vincentian sisters; Vincentian sisters of Mananthavady (Kerala) is one among them.



Feast of Saint Vincent de Paul in Casagiove (Italy)

Casagiove is a small city located in the province of Caserta (Italy) with a population of about 13,000 inhabitants. In the parish of Saint Michael the Archangel, which is located in that city, the people have a great devotion to Saint Vincent (*our elder*, as he is referred to). On July 17-21, the parishioners, together with their pastor, Stefano Giaquinto, celebrated the solemnity of Saint Vincent which was highlighted by two events: a procession of the people and the presence of Father Gregory Gay, who presided at the Eucharist on July 19th. This is an event that deserves to be publicized since *the father of charity* was venerated with such honor and joy.

IV General Assembly of the Vincentian Marian Youth Association



From the perspective of our international, national or local responsibilities and commitments we, each of us, live out our adventure as members of the Vincentian Marian Youth Association. There is no doubt that when anyone enters into a relationship with our Association, that person is never the same. I give thanks to God who has called me to participate in this experience and I am happy to know that through the way I have lived my life I have been able to serve in some way the plan of God and Mary. With those words the retiring president, Yasmine Cajuste, opened the IV General Assembly of the Vincentian Marian Youth Association. This gathering took place in Salamanca, July 24-28, 2015, with some 140 participants from every continent; (young men and women [delegates representing their respective countries], Daughters of Charity and Missionaries [advisors]). Father Gregory Gay, Superior General and director general of the VMY was present during the whole Assembly, which had as its theme: *evangelized, we evangelize*. The young men and women were reminded of their call to proclaim the Word of God ... and to do this in imitation of Mary and in accord with the Vincentian charism.

During the Assembly a new International Council was elected: Yancarlos Carrasco (President, Dominican Republic), Andrew Wagdy (Egypt), Rafael Cruz (Brazil), Ricardo Ferreira (Portugal) and Bienvenue Fouda (Cameroon).

The Catholic Church in Tunis requests assistance



Taking advantage of the visit of Bishop Ilario Antoniazzi, Archbishop of Tunis, we interviewed him about the reality of Catholics of in that country.

Nuntia: Bishop Ilario, how long have you been ministering in Tunis and how, as an Italian, did you begin to minister there?

Bishop Ilario: I arrived in Tunis some two years and three months ago. I have asked myself the same question many times, especially since I have spent almost my whole life in the Middle East. In fact I am a priest who is a member of the Jerusalem Patriarchate and it was there that I was ordained and I have also lived there for more than fifty years. It was the Holy Father Emeritus, Benedict XVI who appointed me as the bishop of Tunis (the previous bishop had been named bishop of Jordan). I find it interesting that the Church has requested two priests from the Jerusalem Patriarchate to serve the church in Tunis. In the beginning it was very difficult to situate myself ... it was as though after sixty years of life I had to be reborn. You see the Middle East is very different from Tunis. In Tunis the reality, the mentality of the people, the language, the manner of engaging in ministry ... all of these are different. At the present time things have become a bit normal and I must say that I am very happy to be in Tunis

N: What is the reality in your diocese and the reality of the Catholic Church in Tunis?

BI: The Church in Tunis has had a glorious past. Saint Augustine, Saint Perpetua and Saint Felicity were born there; there have been three Popes from Tunis and the Council of Carthage was held in the city of Tunis. It was during that Council that Sunday was set aside as the Lord's Day for Christians (not Saturday). Then with the arrival of Islam, Christianity gradually faded away, it had never been able to penetrate and incarnate itself into the Tunisian culture. The colonizers created another problem. Since the colonizers were Catholic and they never separated themselves from the political powers, the Christians became identified with the oppressors and today's Church is still suffering the consequences of that era. On the other hand, when President Habib Bourguiba declared the independence of Tunisia many churches were expropriated and Christians were obliged to flee the country (the Christians were a symbol of the colonization which the people had experienced). At the present time I do not know how many Christians are in Tunis because most of them are foreigners who have come here for study or work and when their task is completed they return to their country of origin.

N: With regard to the churches that were expropriated, how are they being utilized at the present time?

BI: In the 1964 agreement between the Vatican and Tunisia it was decided that these building would not be used in any way that would be opposed to religion. Therefore, many of them have become libraries or warehouses for medicine. The architecture of the buildings has been preserved. The crosses on the outside of these buildings have been removed but those inside the buildings have been preserved. In fact in many of these buildings you can still see the altars and the many other elements that characterized those buildings.

N: How many parishes are there in your diocese?

BI: There are five parishes with lodging for a pastor and with the presence of a pastor. There are also many religious Congregations that are present here and their members help us.

N: Are there religious vocations or vocations to the priesthood?

BI: There are no Tunisian vocations and we are not permitted to engage in vocational promotion because that would be considered a form of proselytism, which is prohibited by law. The police will often visit us to remind us that proselytism is illegal ... and as a result there is no seminary in the country.

N: Let us now talk about a reality that has had many repercussions on Tunis, the presence of ISIS ... we have to distinguish between ISIS and Islam.

BI: Yes, as everyone knows, Islam is a religion that helps people achieve Paradise. ISIS is an extreme (taking Islam to an extreme). We must remember that for the Arab world, religion is very important and if we want to be successful in some plan (even some extremist plan) then we have to place that plan into some religious context. People are drawn by religion and will often commit themselves to a plan without realizing that there is a disconnect ... extremist proposals are often hidden behind the name of God. In Jerusalem there are many Muslims but there the relations are better ... in fact if Muslims want to have a procession, they simply have to make a phone call and the streets are closed and there is no problem with such an event.

N: Before you stated that evil is done in the name of God and we know that people will often die in the name of God ... is there a concept of martyrdom in Islam?

BI: Yes, the concept of martyrdom is present among Muslims, but the significance of the practice is different. Both Christians and Muslims want to give this supreme witness of their love for God. But as I stated, in practice there is a difference: Christian, as they defend their faith, are willing to give their life; Muslim extremists, on the other hand, will engage in acts (attaching bombs to their bodies and thus dying as they carry out their activity) that are viewed as the

acts of a martyr.

N: In light of all that we have said what is the present situation of the few Christians that live there?

BI: It is good that you said "few Christians". I always have to highlight the fact that a drop of perfume fills the house more than a bucket of water. The Catholics in Tunis view themselves as this drop of perfume and up to the present moment there has been no problem ... they rejoice in this way of life. The agreement between the Vatican and Bourguiba is very important because as a result of this concordat which the President signed, we are able to remain here in this country. As I said before there are not any serious problems because the majority of the Catholics who live in Tunis are foreigners and as a result, the government is not concerned about their religion.

N: Bishop, would you like to communicate a message to the Vincentian Missionaries?

BI: That is a very interesting question and it is precisely for that reason that I have traveled from Tunis in order to meet with the Superior General. In Tunis we have the presence of the Vincentian Family, in fact the Missionaries have been given a parish there; the Daughters of Charity are also present ... and I would be very pleased if the Vincentian community would take on a new parish which many tourists visit and where many retired persons live (persons who plan to live their final days in this parish). Because of the low cost of life people are coming from Europe to live here in Tunis and I believe that with the presence of an international team, a wonderful ministry could be developed here.

N: Thank you very much!!



Visit to the Province of Colombia

Fr. Javier Álvarez, CM
General Assistant

Three events led me to visit this Province from June 28th to July 21st.

[1] To participate in the Provincial Assembly

In order to prepare for this gathering, the delegates participated in a retreat that I was privileged to preach. During the five days of the Assembly I was able to discover the genuine concerns of the confreres and their dreams, as well as the difficulties and the challenges that the Province confronts at this present time. I was most grateful for the respect and lively dialogue and debates about the various themes. There was no lack of humor among the moderators as well as among the delegates.

I was able to confirm a conviction that I had been pondering during recent years, namely, that Colombia is a Province that is open and sensitive to the needs of the Congregation and to its international demands. It is a Province that lives in solidarity with those Provinces that are in need of some form of assistance. Among those present during the assembly was Father Henry, the Visitor of the Province of Venezuela. He brought with him a proposal to strengthen the bonds between Colombia and Venezuela since Venezuela will now become a region dependent on Colombia. His proposal was unanimously accepted and ratified with a heartfelt applause.

[2] Animate a five-day Vincentian formation session

In the same place where the confreres



gathered to celebrate their Provincial Assembly (the apostolic seminary, Santa Rosa del Cabal) seventy-five Missionaries and seminarians came together to reflect on some important themes such as, *the originality of Vincentian spirituality from the perspective of the whole of Christian spirituality; some aspects of Vincentian spirituality as seen in the writings of Vincent; the characteristic virtues; the experience and the convictions of Vincent de Paul with regard to the priesthood.* The morning sessions were utilized for various presentations and the afternoon sessions were reserved for discussion and

dialogue about the various ministries of the Province.

I want to highlight here the interest of the participants as seen in their questions and their reflections on the various themes that were presented during the morning sessions as well as their reflections on the ministries of the Province. I have to admit that I have seldom found myself in the midst of such a lively and dynamic group of confreres and I was greatly enriched as a result of my five days in this formation session.

The highlight of this time together was the ordination of four priests and three deacons (all of whom are from Colombia). Bishop Alfonso Cabezas (a Colombian Vincentian ministering in the United States) presided at the ordination. These events provided the confreres with an opportunity to strengthen their sense of belonging to the Province and to the Congregation and at the same time was an opportunity to strengthen the bonds of community among the confreres.

[3] Spiritual retreat for the Sister Servants and a formation session for a group of young Sisters.

Both of these events were held in Cali, a city located some 200 kilometers from Santa Rosa del Cabal and, as indicated by the name of the city, a place with a much warmer climate, though not asphyxiating.

In both of these gatherings I was able to see the great interest of the Sisters in the matters related to our Vincentian spirituality and also it was very obvious that the Sisters live their vocation of service on behalf of the poor in a very intense manner.

In the Provincial House of the Sisters a “perpetual novena” is celebrated there every Tuesday. Hundreds and hundreds of pilgrims go to this place in order to pray to Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal and place their intentions before her. The Eucharist is celebrated at various times throughout the day and many pilgrims participate in the sacrament of Reconciliation. The Missionaries in Cali have taken responsibility for this ministry which brings together so many countless persons in one place. I was privileged to celebrate the Eucharist on one of those Tuesday’s and the church was filled to capacity.

I want to thank the Province of Colombia for their hospitality. As I stated above, the memory of this trip will remain with me for a long time. I also want to thank the community in Cali for their kindness and I also want to extend my gratitude to the Daughters of Charity, members of the Province of Cali, who so graciously and warmly welcomed me and attended to me during my stay there.

International Mission of Lombe (Angola)

Fr. Eli Chaves, CM
General Assistant



Angola is a country with great economic development but often the people do not receive the benefits of this development. In recent years less than 20% of the GDP is received by the workers and there is a real socio-economic gap between the few rich persons and the countless poor persons. The Catholic Church (40% of the 20 million inhabitants are Catholic) is very much alive but lack human and financial resources. Fr. Eli visited this mission during the month of July and sees a strong presence of the Congregation in this country, a presence that gives people much hope.

The parish mission of Lombe, in the Diocese of Malanje, is composed of some 1,200 square kilometers and about 15,000 small farmers who live in 39 different communities. The Congregation of Saint John the Baptist, who minister in a school and provide pastoral assistance, the Sisters of Charity and Providence (who minister in a school and a girl's boarding house) are also present in this area. The Missionary Team, according to their pastoral plan, seeks to develop the process of evangelization (mindful, of course, of the many religious and social needs). They have chosen to give priority to the problem of infant mortality, the problem of

mothers who die during child birth, the problem of the loss of land as a result of government projects and/or projects of various corporations, the problem of corruption and finally, the problem of illiteracy. The five pastoral priorities are the formation of the laity, prayer, further development of social justice ministry, animation of the various groups and communities and administration.

Ministry in the communities is composed of daily visits, gatherings for formation and for the celebration of the Eucharist. Almost every community receives a monthly visit from one of the Missionaries while the larger communities receive two or three visits. The people actively participate in these celebrations and the process of assimilating the gospel message is a very slow process (the socio-cultural reality, chronic poverty, the influence of tradition and the strong presence of witchcraft, the departure of people from the rural areas ... all of these demand pastoral patience). The confreres have begun a project that involves the development of a community garden that is intended to provide food that can be used in the preparation of meals for the school children. The Missionaries serve as advisors to the various

branches of the Vincentian Family: Father Marcos accompanies the Daughters of Charity and the Saint Vincent de Paul Society while Father José is the advisor to the members of the Vincentian Marian Youth Association and the Miraculous Medal Association. The confreres collaborate in coordinating the youth ministry throughout the diocese, are spiritual directors for the seminarians and provide on-going formation for the religious in the diocese.

The confreres developed a community plan from the perspective of co-responsibility for the many diverse community and pastoral tasks and commitments. They live a simple lifestyle and their pastoral approach is one of participation and collaboration with regard to both the people and the women religious. Local resources sustain their ministry and the people contribute products that can be sold in order to cover the costs of the ministry. The confreres are also sustained through the financial assistance of two provinces ... resources that are channeled through the General Curia. The Daughters in Luanda have given strategical support to the mission in Angola.

The mission in Lombe is demanding and difficult but one that is life-giving and provides great hope. At this time there is an attempt to provide consistency and stability to the Vincentian presence in this area: to become more aware of the reality, to explore ways to incarnate the Vincentian charism, engage in ministry with those who are poor and with the members of the Vincentian Family. The Mission in Lombe has the possibility for much growth and ministry with the Vincentian Family is becoming ever more developed.



An example of this is seen in Soyo, in the diocese of Mbanza Congo. In that important oil city there is no branch of the Vincentian Family but the Saint Vincent de Paul Society is beginning to establish itself. At the same time more than three hundred young men and women have requested the confreres to provide them with Vincentian Formation. The bishops have also requested the Congregation to accept new missions. More specifically, in the Diocese of Mangué Grande the Bishop has asked the Congregation to accept the missionary parish of Quela which has 45,000 people in some 40 communities. There are parish buildings but no resident priest (the parish is cared for by a group of women religious); in the Diocese of Mbanza Congo, where the poverty and the lack of personnel is most alarming, the Congregation has been requested to accept a city parish with the intention of creating a mission in Soyo or initiating a mission in Mangué Grande which is composed of 40 towns, more than 40,000 people, no church buildings and no pastoral care for more than two years.

The mission in Angola has a great missionary and prophetic outreach and is in need of confreres who are able to live in the midst of harsh situations in order to confront the many complex pastoral challenges. The mission also needs financial resources in order to maintain and develop the ministry. This mission, like the other international missions, invites the Congregation to allow itself to be renewed by the missionary vitality of its charism, to grow (on the international level) in its missionary spirit and to go to those places where the cries of the poor are most urgent.

Visit of Bishop Varghese Thottamkara, CM

From 25th May to 31st May 2015, his Grace Rev. Bp. Varghese Thottamkara made his visit to Tanzania for the first time after becoming the Bishop of Nekemte vicariate in Ethiopia.

He was very happy to see the confreres and the progress of the mission. In addition to see the confreres and the mission he also had the purpose of visiting Sisters of Mercy. Few years back this Congregation had begun their mission in Nekemte diocese of Ethiopia.

It is a diocesan congregation and the growth of it depends on the bishop of the diocese. The sisters are very happy that now that have Bp. Varghese who really wants this congregation to grow in his diocese. The Ethiopian novices are still being trained in Mbinga, Tanzania. The novices were very happy to see their bishop in Tanzania, with of course; some “njera”, (which is the daily food of Ethiopians which they miss very much in Tanzania.



Paroisse Saint Jean-Paul II, DAR SALAM



A Center in Dar Salam, which is the big-gest city in Tanzania, was another long awaited plan of the mission. Some Years back when Fr. Mathew Onatt was the mission superior he had bought two pieces of land, in Dar Salam, where at present we many not be able afford to buy land any more. In one of the lands we had built a small house and one of the confreres stayed there for two years.

But due to lack of human resource and also of finance we had decided to call off the pro-ject in Dar. Now after few years we have taken up the mission again. This time we have got a parish almost five km away from both of our lands. It was a substation, which now Cardinal has declared as a parish and has given to us. Fr. Mathew Twimanye has been appointed as the first parish priest.

75 Years of presence in Mozambique



On May 24th 1940 our Portuguese confreres Father Francisco da Silva, Father Antonio Oliveria da Silva, Father Antonio Almeida, Brother Avelino Alves, Brother Almerindo Olin, Brother Avelino Carvalho and Brother João de Freitas arrived in Maputo. They established a house in Magude and from there expanded their work to various places in the Province of Gaza ... this included forming the local clergy. Good Missionaries and organized pastoral activities gave witness to the fruitful ministry of these valiant Portuguese missionaries who, after the national independence of Mozambique in 1975, relied on the collaboration of the confreres from other provinces of the Congregation.

In a spirit of gratitude

and in the spirit of renewing their missionary commitment, the Vice-Province of Mozambique is celebrating this jubilee with much joy and with a program that includes the ordination of two confreres from Mozambique (E. Kunguze [priesthood], Agostinho Neto Cipriano [deaconate]). With the participation of the whole Vincentian Family, the opening of the celebration began in the house in Matola and was then continued in Magude (June 21st) with the celebration at which Ernesto was ordained. The Vice-Province celebrates the 50th anniversary of its establishment, the 15th anniversary of the Fernando Muscavele's ordination and the 25th anniversary of Bishop Fermano Grachane's episcopal ordination.

Congratulations to the Vice-Province of Mozambique. Today the Vice-Province, with Missionary fervor and courage, is a great international missionary, with confreres from various Provinces who are engaged in diverse ministries in the midst of very difficult and challenging situations (e.g., lack of personnel and lack of financial resources). May God bless the confreres and their ministry and may God also provide laborers for the harvest. Let us give thanks to God and let us deepen our commitment to this Vice-Province that continues to rely on the solidarity of the whole Congregation as they develop their missionary ministry in order to confront the most urgent needs of the people.

Visit of the Sisters of Charity to the Curia

On August 3rd, before the departure of many confreres for their vacation and other commitments, the Mother General of the Sisters of Charity of Saint Joan Antida Thouret, Sister Nunzia de Gori and some of the members of the General Council visited the Curia. The Sisters had concluded their XIX General Chapter at which Sister Nunzia was re-elected. Several of the confreres at the Curia celebrated the Eucharist for the Sisters during the time of their General Chapter (Father Gregory celebrated the Eucharist and had a dialogue with the Sisters).

The following have recently visited the Curia: Father Brian O'Sullivan from the Province of Oceania, Father Christian Cataño from the Province of Colombia (participant in the General Assembly of the VMY) and Father Jean Baptiste Nguyen from the Province of Vietnam (participant in the General Assembly of the VMY).



Guillermo Campuzano – CM representative at UN



Father Guillermo, has been appointed the new CM representative at the UN. He replaces Fr. Joseph Foley, CM.

Father Campuzano was born in Colombia and is a member of the Western Province of the United States. During the past eight years he has ministered at DePaul University as a professor and as a campus minister. He is a member of the Theological Reflection Team (ETAP) which advises the Latina American/Caribbean Conference of Religious (CLAR). He is also an advisor to the National Project with regard to Hispanic Youth Ministry in the United States.

Fr. Jorge Luis Rodriguez, CM of the Communications Office of the Congregation of the Mission reports on the background of the position and an interview with Father Foley...

As a Society of Apostolic Life, the Congregation of the Mission, together with many other Religious Congregations, is present at the United Nations alongside many other Catholic and Vincentian NGO's. There, through the presence of a confrere, the Congregation of the Mission echoes the cries of the poor that are heard in the countless communities where the Missionaries minister throughout the world. In doing so, these cries are, in turn, heard by those in a position to make significant decisions on these matters.

Furthermore, our representative at the United Nations establishes a relationship between the Congregation and those individuals dealing with many varied matters that effect the whole of humankind, ecology, peace, etc. He has a twofold task: first, echoing the cries of the poor and making known at the UN the work of the Church's NGO's; second, communicating the reflections and the decisions of the UN to the Congregation of the Mission and the Vincentian Family so that these entities might continue to read and interpret, in a prophetic manner, the signs of the time.

This mission makes the Congregation always attentive to the present reality so that she might respond in a creative manner to the cries that arise on the existential and geographical peripheries where so many of our poor brothers and sisters live out their lives. People continue to cry out and it is important to respond to those cries. Wherever our voice is heard, we also want the cries of the poor to be heard.

Up to the present time the representative of the Congregation of the Mission has been Father Foley, a member of the Eastern Province of the United States who was appointed to this position in 2000.

During a brief interview Father Foley said that during these years one of his greatest satisfactions has been an ability to come to the understanding that the presence of the Congregation at the UN is in fact an expression of the Superior General's commitment to social justice on the behalf of those who poor. The presence of the Congregation at the UN is a way to advocate on behalf of those who are poor and unable to defend themselves either because they are afraid or are threatened. Another important aspect has been the Church's support (in the person of recent Popes) of the representatives to this international organization ... a support that has been expressed in her social doctrine. On a more personal level Father spoke about coming to know so many men and women, religious and lay, all of whom are committed and well informed with regard to the present day reality.

Father Foley said that one of the greatest difficulties is the lack of communication with the leaders of the Congregation on both the international and the provincial level.

Father Foley recommended the following:

- Maintain an on-going relationship with the members of the Curia, especially those that exercise regional leadership in the world (assistant generals)
- Establish a closer relationship with the General Council so that regular meetings can be scheduled. In this way information can be communicated in a more personal manner and such sessions could become part of the on-going formation of the Curia.
- Take advantage of the present moment in which Pope Francis has published his encyclical *Laudato Si*, and from the perspective of the Vincentian charism and the Church's social doctrine to make some clear proposal on this matter.

The General Council wants to thank Father Foley for his years of service and commitment to this specific mission and at the same time wants to welcome Father Guillermo Campuzano, CM who has been appointed to be the representative of the Congregation at the UN.

Father Campuzano was born in Colombia and is a member of the Western Province of the United States. During the past eight years he has ministered at DePaul University as a professor and as a campus minister. He is a member of the Theological Reflection Team (ETAP), which advises the Latina American/Caribbean Conference of Religious (CLAR). He is also an advisor to the National Project with regard to Hispanic Youth Ministry in the United States.

Mouvements de la Curie Générale

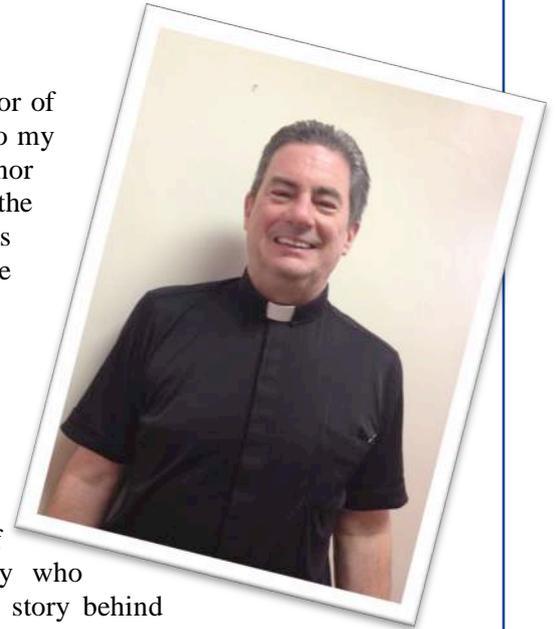
Ceux qui partent

Fr. John Maher, CM

“After laboring four years as the Editor of *Vincentiana*, and Director of Communications and Publications at the General Curia, I have returned to my home, the Eastern Province USA for a new assignment. It has been an honor and a privilege to serve in this capacity, and a rare opportunity to view the Congregation from both international and historical perspectives. This has been challenging and enriching experience, one for which I will always be grateful.

I wish to offer my thanks to the Superior General and General Council for this opportunity, along with the Editorial Board of *Vincentiana* for their ideas and support. I also wish to pay tribute to our previous editor, Fr. Julio Suescun, C.M., who was a wise mentor as I learned the many details of producing *Vincentiana*. One last group I want to pay particular tribute to is our translators, who have been so incredibly generous in their service to *Vincentiana*. The selfless example of confreres, Daughters of Charity, and laity in the Vincentian Family who generously gave of their time and talent to translate is the real success story behind *Vincentiana*.

I leave the editorship grateful for this opportunity, (although slightly exhausted!), and I thank you, our faithful readers and subscribers for your interest and patronage of *Vincentiana*. As for my own words of farewell, Lacordaire, a French priest and contemporary of Frederic Ozanam, said it best: “All I know about tomorrow is that God’s Providence will rise before the sun.”



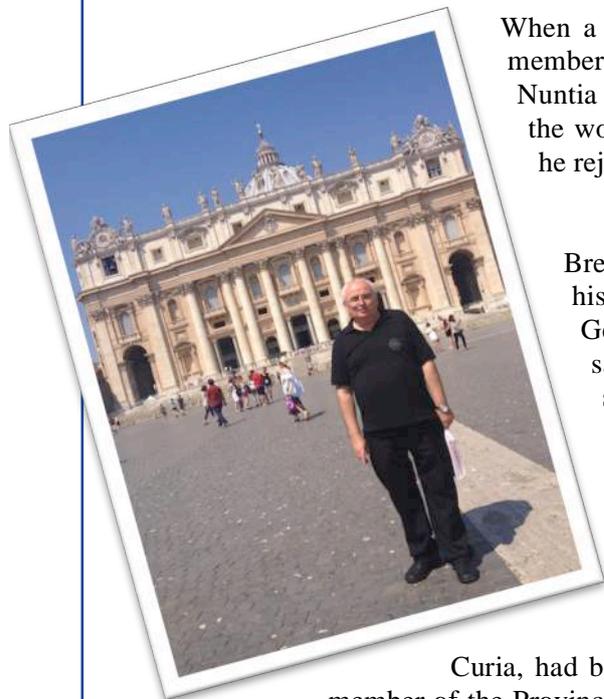
Fr. Vincent Zonták, CM

When a confrere became aware of the fact that Father Vicente Zonták was a member of the General Curia, he asked me to interview him for the readers of *Nuntia* because he felt the confreres of the Congregation should come to know the wonderful example of Father Zonták. Therefore, like a good Vincentian, he rejected the idea of such an interview.

Who is this confrere, Vicente Zonták? Vincent was born in Brezovicka, Slovakia and is a member of the 50’s generation. Because of his last name he might well be confused with his brother, the Assistant General, Stanislav Zonták. Some time ago Vincent wanted to take a year sabbatical but instead of spending the year engaged in some studies or some form of rest, he offered his services to the Curia, especially in the kitchen. Thus, during the span of one year we were not only able to enjoy his specialties, that is, his combination of Italian and Slovakian dishes, but we were also gifted with the presence of his person and the manner in which he went about his work (and that nourished us much more than his meals).

It should be pointed out that this confrere, before coming to the Curia, had been engaged in various ministries in his Province ... he was pastor, a member of the Provincial Council, a formatter in the seminary, a spiritual director, Visitor and Missionary who had served not only in Slovakia but also in the Czech Republic.

In the Curia, Father Vincent became known for his kindness and service which were expressed in many different ways (e.g., in the service that he did with great joy, in his awareness of the various foods that one person or another needed or preferred and especially in his simplicity that characterized everything that he did). Even though he was not in the best of health when he arrived here he nevertheless always did his work in a diligent and thoughtful manner.



Brother L'ubomir Zemla



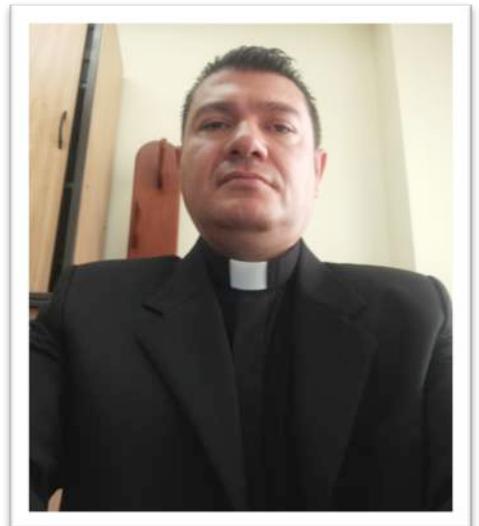
Many confreres know Brother L'ubomir who was present in the Curia some years ago. After having engaged in ministry in his country of origin, Slovakia, he went to Honduras, to a missionary parish of the Province in Sangrelaya (Colón). At the present time, Father General has requested his services here in the Curia where he has come to replace Father Vincent Zonták and so we want to welcome brother!

Fr. Álvaro Mauricio Fernández Monzalve

Father John Maher is leaving the General Curia and Father Alvaro Mauricio Fernandez Monsalve is arriving.

Father Alvaro is a member of the Colombian Province and the superior general has appointed him as Director of *Vincentiana* (a position that falls under the responsibility of the Communications Office) and as an assistant to the Secretary General of the Congregation of the Mission.

Father Fernandez was born on October 8, 1971 in Yarunal – Antioquia (Colombia) and is a member of a large family (parents and 14 brothers and sisters). In February 1990 he began his philosophical studies in La Milagrosa (Medellin) and studied theology for two years at Villa Paul in Funza. In 1995 he volunteered to go to Cuba and there completed his theology at the National Seminary, San Carlos and San Ambrosio in Havana. He was ordained to the diaconate in Cuba and in 1997 was ordained to the priesthood in Colombia. He ministered in Cuba for three more years and returned to Colombia in 2000 and there served as a formator in the Seminary Indígena Paez.



Father Alvaro then ministered as a formator at the major seminary of Nuestra Señora del Carmen (the archdiocesan seminary of Villavicencio) and while there had the additional responsibility of general treasurer of the archdiocese. Father also ministered in the major seminary, San Pedro, located in Santo Domingo de los Colorados (Ecuador).

In 2006 he received his graduate degree from the Universidad Pontificia Javeriana in Bogota and in 2009 he received a double master's degree: in Church History (from the Catholic Institute in Paris) and in Modern History (from the University of Paris, the Sorbonne). From 2010-2012 he was at the Berceau where he was responsible for welcoming visitors.

In September 2012 he returned to Colombia where he ministered as a member of the Vocational Promotion Team. In 2013 he was appointed treasurer at the Apostolica (the present Internal Seminary). In 2014 he was assistant provincial treasurer and treasurer at the provincial house. The Nuncio in Colombia appointed him treasurer-administrator of the Apostolic Nunciature in Colombia. In recent months he has served as a formator and treasurer in the major seminary, La Milagrosa in Medellin.

July

Nominaciones / Confirmaciones

GARAJ Jozef	15/07/2015	Director of DC Slovakia (Reconfirmed)
RAFANOMEZANTSOA Alexandre Zephirin	15/07/2015	Visitor of Madagascar (Reconfirmed)

Ordinaciones

CARVALHO GONÇALVES Erik de	Sac	Flu	12/04/2015
DA SILVA Denílson Matias	Sac	Flu	12/04/2015
MWANGI MBOCHA Peter	Sac	Occ	30/05/2015
NG'ASIKE Samuel Egialan	Sac	Occ	30/05/2015
NGANGAH Dominic John	Sac	Occ	30/05/2015
NYAMBUNDE Thomas Elijah	Sac	Occ	30/05/2015
ODHIAMBO Benson Thaddaeus	Sac	Occ	30/05/2015
SERI Stefano	Sac	Rom	27/06/2015
AGADA Onoja Jeremiah	Sac	Nig	03/07/2015
CHINEDU EZEH	Sac	Nig	03/07/2015
EMMANUEL MUSHI Pastory	Sac	InM	09/07/2015
HERMAN KIMBOI John	Sac	InM	09/07/2015
SYLVESTER HAULE Emmanuel	Sac	InM	09/07/2015
VICTORY MGEDZI Ahadi	Sac	InM	09/07/2015
CUETOCUÉ PARDO Abel Antonio	Sac	Col	11/07/2015
PASTRANA AVENDAÑO Abelardo	Sac	Col	11/07/2015
SÁNCHEZ RINCÓN Pepe Adolfo	Sac	Col	11/07/2015
VELÁSQUEZ VELÁSQUEZ Alestisi	Sac	Col	11/07/2015
MEJÍA RAMÍREZ Jorge Luis	Sac	Col	18/07/2015

Necrologium

Nomen	Cond.	Dies ob.	Prov.	Aet.	Voc.
ANGIULI Stefano	Sac	10/07/2015	Nea	76	60
LEWANDOWSKI Benedykt	Sac	11/07/2015	Pol	68	50
PÉREZ BARRIO Justo	Sac	15/07/2015	Mat	93	77
WOESTELANDT Fernand	Sac	16/07/2015	Tol	92	75
SUÁREZ OJEDA Luís Alejandro	Sac	28/07/2015	Ven	42	11