

NEWSLETTER FOR THE PROVINCE

To all the Brothers and Lay Collaborators of the Marist Province of Central East Africa.

Under the motto of “**LEADERSHIP AND COMMUNICATION AT THE SERVICE OF UNITY**”, the VIIth Provincial Chapter of the Province gathered at the Centre D'accueil Mater Boni Consilii in Butare, Rwanda. Brothers present, residents in the five countries of our Province, were:

Elected Chapter Members, brothers:

Adolphe Paluku, Albert Nzabonaliba, Christian Gisamonyo, Désiré Shamabale, Edouard Yatha, Fabien Bulaimu, Félix Banam, Ignace Mbaruramye, Jean Mfurayase, Rémy Mbolipasiko, Spiridion Ndanga and Valerian Kalendelo. Brother Antoine Kazindu was also elected, but could not join the Chapter.

Members by right to the Chapter, brothers:

Venceslas Baindekeli, Théoneste Kalisa, Crescent Karerangabo, Masumbuko Mununguri, Patrick Nangale, Thomas Omari, and Kiko Baeza.

Present from the General Administration:

Rev. Brother Ernesto Sánchez Barba, S.G.

Observer:

Br Teo Grageda.

Supportive team of the Chapter:

Br Bernard Ntigura.



Chapter Procedure.-

The preparatory commission of the Chapter invited us to start with a prayer and a short pilgrimage from the gardens of the house, towards the Chapter Hall, this prayer was led by Br Spiridion Ndanga. We concluded singing the “Veni Creator Spirit” hymn at the Chapter Hall.

The opening words were from Br Théoneste Kalisa, followed by Rev Br Ernesto Sánchez, S. G. who addressed to the assembly few words. He stressed the unity we have as an Institute, being all members of one global family.

Once in the Chapter Hall, the provisional bureau proceeded to the validation of the elected members of the Chapter. Br Antoine Kazindu was not present and there was not substitute foreseen to take his place. Therefore, the Capitulants were a total of 19.

The members of the Bureau of the Chapter were then elected. Moderators were Brs Albert Nzabonaliba and Christian Gisamonyo, and Secretaries of the Chapter were elected Brs Fabien Bulaimu and Thomas Omari. Tellers of the Chapter were Brs Spiridion Ndanga and Ignace Mbaruramye.

Once the Bureau of the Chapter was elected, Br Théoneste Kalisa pronounced the report from his administration for the past three years and declared open the works of the VIIth Provincial Chapter.

Then an important moment was the installation of Br Venceslas Baindekeli as Provincial, done by Rev Br Ernesto Sánchez, S.G., who handed the symbols of authority to the new Brother Provincial: *stamp, the Constitutions and the list of the Brothers of PACE*. He then declared Br Venceslas Baindekeli the new Provincial of PACE, and he pronounced his speech that reflected the vision of his mandate for the coming three years.

Priorities for the Province.-

In order to reflect on these important objectives as a Chapter, the assembly had an opportunity to listen and read different documents and presentations: *a letter from Br Ernesto Sánchez B., S.G. who gave us the summary of the sondage conducted by the General Council on PACE; the survey prepared by the Preparatory Commission of this VII Provincial Chapter; the report from Br Théoneste Kalisa and the initial words of Br Venceslas Baindekeli; and the financial report presented by Br Kiko Baeza, Econome Provincial.*

With all the material received, the assembly needed to find the Priorities that would help us to focus our efforts for the coming years: 2021-2024. What follows here below, are the four priorities chosen. The assembly suggested some concrete lines of action, that the new Provincial Council will consider, and once they will arrange them accordingly, they will communicate to the Province after their first meeting.

Priorities:

- ⊕ **Marist Identity and Unity.**
- ⊕ **Leadership and Governance.**
- ⊕ **Sustainability and Accountability.**
- ⊕ **Marist Vocation ministry.**

Provincial Council.-

After having the main priorities that the new administration will focus on, the assembly proceed to elect the members of the Provincial Council, that will accompany Br Venceslas Baindekeli in the coming three years of service. The new elected members are:

Valerian Kalendelo, Jean Mfurayase, Thomas Omari, Fabien Bulaimu and Albert Nzabonaliba.



Study of documents.-

We also dedicated some time to discuss, actualize and approve the NORMS OF THE PROVINCE and the RULES OF THE CHAPTER (for the VIII Provincial Chapter in 2024). After the modifications made, the document will be sent to Rome for approval and then to distribute it to the communities.

Through this Newsletter we express our gratitude to all the Brothers and Lay collaborators who were together with us with their prayers, helping to build the unity in the Province, starting with the prayer said before the Chapter. Throughout this Chapter we experienced great peace and consensus in our decisions, we expect your support for the implementation of the decisions taken.

Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New year 2022.

Fraternally yours,

Br. Teo Grageda
Provincial Secretary