

NUN TIA

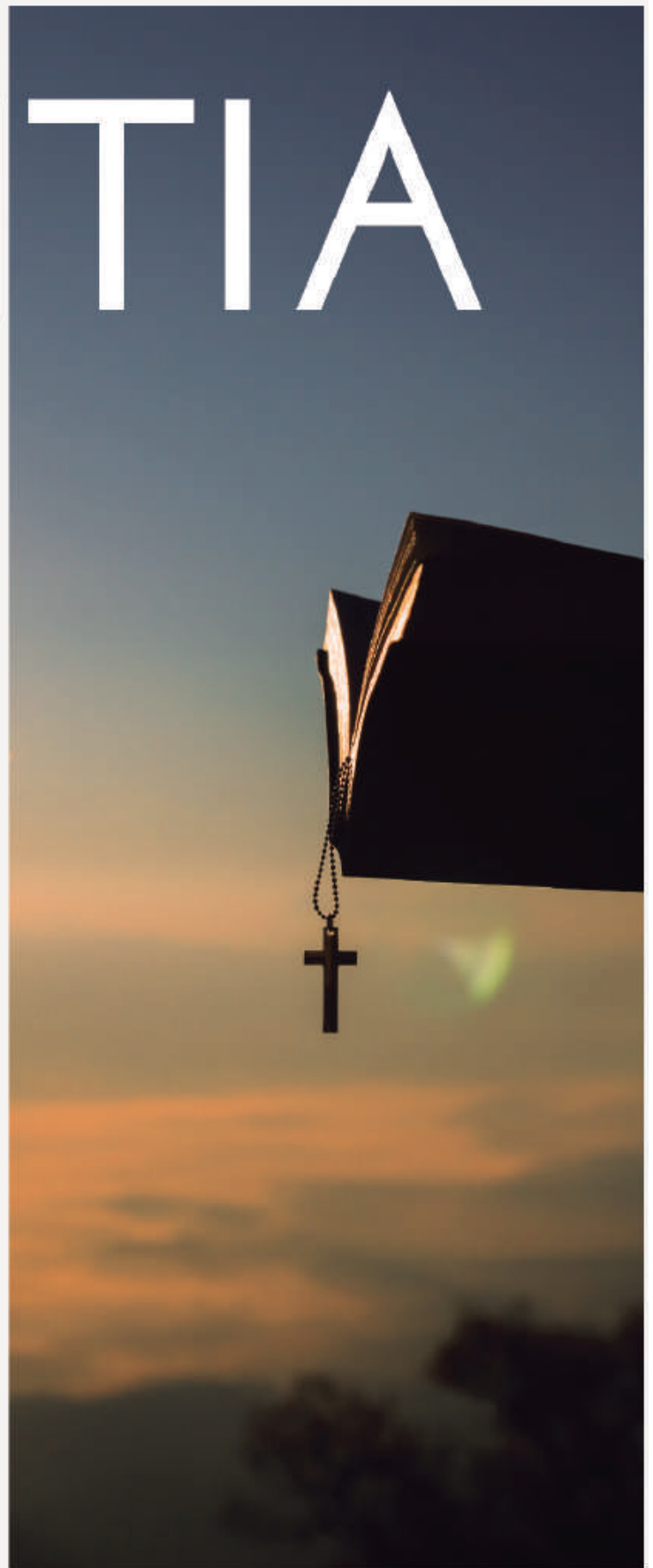
Newsletter

of the Congregation of the Mission

2021
OCTOBER



Congregation of the Mission
Communication Office



Four South Indian Missionaries to Malawi Mission

Our holy founder St. Vincent de Paul cultivated a deep desire to fulfil the Mission Command of the Lord and to inspire others to dedicate their lives for the Mission. He envisioned the mission of the Congregation of the Mission, the little company, as he called it, in accordance with it. Emphasizing on the Universality of the Missionary Vocation he said:

How happy, oh! how happy is the state of a missionary whose missions and labors for Jesus Christ know no other bounds than the entire world in which men live. Why then should we restrict ourselves to one place and set limits, when God has given us such an expanse in which to exercise our zeal?

St. Vincent had shaped a clear stance towards the foreign missions he said:

... the power to send (to mission) ad gentes resides in the person of His Holiness alone, he has the power to send every priest throughout the earth for the glory of God and the salvation of souls; and all priests have the obligation to obey him in that regard. According to that maxim, which seems reasonable to me, I offered God this Little Company for His Divine Majesty to go wherever His Holiness commands...

Down through the history of the Congregation of the Mission both the leadership and the members have tried to live the universality of their missionary vocation with a readiness to go on Mission ad Gentes. Indian Vincentian history is an obvious example of this same truth.

This year we the Vincentians in India are celebrating the centenary of the arrival of the Spanish Vincentian Missionaries to India (1922-2022) and the South Indian Province is at the threshold of Silver Jubilee of its establishment (1997-2022). At this historical juncture we raise our hearts in gratitude to God for the manifold blessings and graciousness in making the Vincentians the channels of God's blessing to many. In this historic moment we also gratefully remembers 55 Spanish Vincentian Missionaries, worked in the Indian soil and called to eternal rest. I am sure, they are rejoicing in heaven,



seeing the manifold growth of the Indian Vincentian missions and continue to support us through their unfailing intercession. St. Vincent de Paul not only had a special love for the Foreign Mission especially mission ad gentes but he also believed that the Little Company has an obligation to respond to the requests coming from Bishops for missionaries from different parts of the world. In this same spirit of our Holy Founder and responding to the call of our Superior General Rev. Fr. Tomaž Mavrič for sending 1% of confreres to Mission Ad Gentes, the South Indian Province accepted a long standing invitation from Rt. Rev. George Desmond Tambala, the Bishop of Zomba diocese in Malawi. Bishop George Desmond had requested for missionaries in 2017. The South Indian Province was not in a position to accept the invitation then. With the great trust in the Providence of God and the blessings of the Superior General and the General Curia in March 2020 we began discussions with the bishop of Zomba. After a number of discussions and correspondence the South Indian Province agreed to take up two mission stations in the diocese of Zomba and to send four confreres to begin the missions. Due to the pandemic traveling from India to Malawi was impossible on those days. Therefore, in September 2020 the Visitor delegated Fr. Sebastian Vettickal CM and Fr. George Kannamkulam CM,

Four South Indian Missionaries to Malawi Mission



working in Tanzania, to visit Zomba diocese and begin direct discussions with Bishop George Desmond on behalf of the Visitor. After the visit they submitted a report regarding this challenging and promising mission. The Provincial Council evaluated and accepted the proposal and gave green signal to start the preparations to accept the Malawi mission. In December 2020 the Visitor officially communicated to Bishop George that we are ready to take up the mission and asked him to send invitation letters for obtaining visa.

In February 2021 the Visitor Fr. Anil Thomas presented to the Superior General and his Council a detailed Vision Plan for Malawi mission and its expansion in four states from 2021 to 2045 and it was accepted and approved after certain minor corrections and modifications. Meanwhile, assistants General Fr. Miles Heinen and Fr. Mathew Kallammakal were closely following the planning and developments of the new Mission ad Gentes and were in discussion with the Visitor. On 30th March 2021 the missionaries received Visa to go to Malawi. Unfortunately by then the second wave of COVID-19 severely hit India and all national and international flights were cancelled and in three months the Visas expired after three months. We had to begin the process again after a few months. On 13th September they received the second Visa to Malawi and on 28th September 2021 Fr. George Kannamkulath (Mission Superior), Fr. M. Fredy, Fr. S. Mahesh and Fr. Sojan John flew from Bangalore to Mumbai and early in the morning on 29th September they flew from Mumbai to Malawi via Nairobi and landed at

Lilongwe international airport in Malawi at 1:45 pm on 29th September. Rt. Rev. George Desmond himself was at the airport to receive the confreres. He took them to the diocesan pastoral central in Lilongwe and for rest and night halt. On the next day the bishop took them to Zomba. At present they are studying the local language and culture as well as preparing the documents for obtaining residential permit.

In Grateful remembrance of the first four Spanish Vincentian missionaries to India and their self-gift to God and Indian Church, four of our confreres have offered themselves to go to Malawi. Fr. George Kannamkulam, Fr. M. Fredy, Fr. S. Makesh and Fr. Sojan John are the four pioneering missionaries to Malwai Mission.

We wish and pray that the self-gift of these missionaries and all missionaries may build together the Kingdom of God on earth bringing people closer to God with the same zeal and vigour of St. Vincent. May their dedicated missionary endures bring glory to God and to his name.

Fr. Anil Thomas Karackavayalil CM
Visitor, South Indian Province

MYANMAR MISSION



“Evangelizare Pauperibus misit me”. This is the motto of our congregation. St. Vincent De Paul our holy founder guided by the Holy Spirit lived this motto in his life and passed it on to his followers as a heritage. Christ the evangelizer of the poor was his role model and it is to the same Christ Vincent advised his followers to look up to. His missionary zeal knew no boundaries. He sent confreres beyond the borders of France to support local Churches in Italy, Ireland, Scotland, Poland, Algiers, Madagascar, etc.

Faithful to this legacy Madrid Province of the Congregation of the Mission, a century ago, sent Spanish Vincentians to India. We remember gratefully the services and sacrifices of 54 Spanish Vincentians in evangelizing the poor in Southern Orissa, India. Over the years the Indian provinces have grown big in personnel capabilities and started sending missionaries crossing the national and continental boundaries.

Myanmar is a country, border to India, where Vincentian presence has not reached yet. Northern Indian Province has been contemplating the idea of beginning a Vincentian mission in that country. The idea of starting a Vincentian mission in Myanmar took a step forward when Most Rev. Felix Lian, bishop of Kalay diocese, requested the Superior General, Fr. Tomaz Mavric, to help out the local church by establishing a Vincentian mission in Myanmar. In response to bishop's request Fr. Basil Thottamkara from the Northeast Region of India, a confrere gifted for pioneering work, was asked to explore the possibility of starting a Vincentian mission in Myanmar. Fr Basil made several visits to Myanmar establishing necessary connectivity by contacting bishops, religious and catholic communities in Myanmar.

The Myanmar mission project was further strengthened with the meeting between Bishop Felix Lian of Myanmar and the Superior General, Fr. Tomaz Mavric, together with other diocesan and provincial authorities of North Indian Province in November 2019 in Moreh Parish, India.

Bishop Felix Lian was very supportive and proposed Tuivang as a new Parish for the Vincentians. All preparations were made to begin the Vincentian community in Myanmar. However the Pandemic and political turmoil in Myanmar created new hurdles and challenges for starting the Vincentian community in Myanmar. So after long dialogue with all concerned we decided to establish a Vincentian center in Joldam which is a place in the Indian side at the border to Myanmar. Staying at Joldam Vincentian center we intend to reach out to catholic communities in Myanmar and promote vocations from there for the Congregation. Our aim is to begin Vincentian communities in Myanmar in course of time and thus plant the Congregation in Myanmar. This is a long term project and I believe God will bless our missionary efforts. If God willing we hope to see a day when expansion of Vincentian activities will be made possible in Myanmar through Myanmarese Vincentians themselves.

Joldam Vincentian center is our base and we are trying to build up the center with necessary institutions. This Vincentian center is fully functional at the moment with temporary structures which can last only 2 to 3 years. So making permanent structures is a necessity. At the moment we, Fr. Basil and Fr. John, are in Joldam Vincentian center fully involved in Myanmar mission project. As we move forward some more confreres intend to join us in this missionary efforts. The assistance and support we receive from the General Curia for this missionary endeavors increase our enthusiasm to move ahead in spite of the challenges. St. Vincent said: “Let us allow God to act. God brings things to completion when we least expect it.”

Fr. Basil Thotamkara CM

The International Mission in Chad: News and COVID-19

The three local communities of the Congregation of the Mission that minister in Chad have made every effort to protect themselves and to deepen their community and payer life, more frequent fraternal sharing that revolves around varied experiences, taking meals together (and spending more time at meals) that is then followed by common recreation. The year 2020-2021 has been exceptional for the mission in Chad. Two students from Cameroon have joined the mission in order to do their apostolic year here.

[1] The parish community and the St. Jean Baptiste de Bebalem Institute

--Father DISUKA Sylvain Rémy: pastor

--Father EZE Kenneth: Treasurer of the Mission and Supervisor of the Secondary School

--YOGO Jean Marie: Student

After lifting some of the quarantine measures, the challenges continue: expanding the school facilities, three new motorcycles 125 for the ministry (especially during the rainy season), the Lycée School has opened a branch 16km from Bebalem.

[2] Minor Seminary Saint John Paul II Academy – Moundou

--Father MONINGA Leon: Rector

--Father BOKETA Augustin: Treasurer and Spiritual Director

--NGALSANI Marcel Eugène: Student

Saint John Paul II Minor Seminary has 63 seminarians. On going strikes in the administration and in the educational field impede a normal course of study. The problem of inculturation (faith and Christian tradition) continues to be a problem. The confreres are often requested to provide pastoral assistance in various places.

[3] Minor Seminary Saint Jean Apôtre – Kounkoul – N'Djamena

--Father TUTUWAM A. Emmanuel: Rector

--Father BONGONGO Dieudonné: Treasurer and Spiritual Director

The minor seminary has six seminarians who have attained their bachelor's degree. The two confreres are also involved in pastoral ministry with the Xaverian Fathers. Means of transportation is a concern and we have requested assistance of the Vincentian Solidarity Office for funds to buy a car. A contract with the archdiocese is important



Father Léon Moninga, CM
Superior of the International Mission of Chad

News About the Vincentian International Mission in Tunisia

The Vincentian International Mission in Tunisia dates to 2011 and it was at the request of then Archbishop Maroun Laham that the Superior General, Father Gregory Gay, CM made the decision to send two missionaries who were welcomed in the capital of Tunisia. This marked the establishment of the mission in that country. Much, however, has changed since that time.

Tunisia is a North African country located on the Mediterranean coast and bordering the Sahara Desert. Islam is considered the official religion. The majority of the people in this country are Muslim. Most Muslims are Sunnis from the Maliki Rite (from the classical schools of Sunni Muslim law, a rite based on the teachings of Imam Mālik ibn Anas), but also of the Hanafi Rite (teachings of the former law schools of Kufa and Basra and dependent on the theologian, Imām Abū Hanīfa).

In Tunisia, Christians represent one percent of the population and are mostly foreigners residing in the country (a minority of the Christian community is composed of Tunisian converts). These "new Christians" (converts) are usually young men or women who live their faith, (some of these men and women have been cast aside by their families as a result of their conversion). Despite the freedom of conscience recognized by the Constitution, Tunisian converts can be detained by the police. Their families often have difficulty accepting such a conversion (they fear being brought before legal authorities).

Among these converts is a young man whom we sent to the Dominican community in 2015. He was ordained a deacon this year in Lyon, France, and will be ordained a Dominican priest early next year.

Our insertion in Tunisia in 2011 was marked by the great Arab Spring Revolution and its challenges of insecurity and the voluntary departure of foreigners from the country.

In accord with our charism, upon arrival the confreres were integrated into the activities of the local Church. They accompanied the members of the parish community as well as the Daughters of Charity; they offered services in various prisons and collaborated with the Diocesan Caritas Office. These activities were carried out by the confreres with great missionary zeal.

In 2016, the Archbishop of Tunisia entrusted the Congregation with a second parish in Susa, a tourist city, but also a city where many technology students reside.



At the present time, three African confreres minister in the two parishes. We are waiting for a fourth confrere who will arrive in October.

The confreres accompany the religious communities and preach retreats. They give private French and English classes to Tunisian adults and youth people and offer an introductory computer course that is open to all. The diocese has also entrusted us with the Chaplaincy at the Saint Augustine Clinic, the Chaplaincy at the Rades Family Home, the Diocesan Chaplaincy at Divine Mercy and the Coordination of the Diocesan Commission of Ecumenism. We were also elected to the Presbyteral Council, the Episcopal Council, and the College of Consultants.

The Vincentian family in Tunisia is very small: with the Daughters of Charity, the Vincentian Marian Youth and the Congregation of the Mission as branches. The attempt to create other branches of the Vincentian Family has not been successful due to a lack of members. We are also responsible for and/or collaborate as advisers to the large family of Tunisian associations. As a Vincentian family, we collaborate on projects for immigrants, the elderly, single mothers, the disabled. We also work together with young men and women and promote vocations.

Our Congregation cannot fulfill its mission without new vocations. It is clear that vocation is a gift from God, and that no human effort can replace the action of the Spirit. God, however, uses human instruments to continue his saving work. It is our mission and our spiritual heritage that makes us all vocational promoters. Vocational promotion simply means creating opportunities in our ministry and providing the appropriate means to awaken and help young men and women become aware of their own vocation and respond to it. In this spirit, we organize monthly vocational weekends in one or the other of our two

News About the Vincentian International Mission in Tunisia



parishes and the participants include young sub-Saharan students and Tunisian converts who want to know us better. The reality of the mission in this country is quite different. It begins with inculturation and learning the language. The Arabic language is easy to learn, but it is still a great challenge and requires time and sacrifice.

This year (2021), we celebrate the tenth anniversary of our presence in Tunisia. The great challenge for us is that of stability. From 2011 to today, several confreres have responded to the missionary call of the Superior General to come to Tunisia, but they have remained here for a relatively short period of time. A mission like ours requires a certain stability in order to become integrated into the Muslim reality.

What can we do together to revitalize our mission on this continent?

We would like to begin with this this question in order to make a brief presentation and then offer some suggestions. In the different places where we are present, we must, as Pope Francis says, continue "to see and to listen" to what God is saying by being attentive to the calls of the local Church, to the cries of the poor and to the signs of the times.

Our involvement in this regard must flow from a deep commitment to the most vulnerable and the excluded. We must make visible our commitment to communicate God's love to all people. Through our commitment to the cause of the poor, these people will love God in return, and through our support for them, they will come to know God's love for them.

Hearing the cry of the poor is one way to describe God's mercy. One of the first testimonies that God listens to the poor is found in the first chapters of the Exodus.

The Israelites were in slavery and cried out: they couldn't take it anymore: God heard their groaning and was mindful of his covenant with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. He saw the Israelites and knew (Exodus 2:24-25). It was then that God called Moses to present Pharaoh with the divine mandate to liberate his people.

In the Vincentian context of the Maghreb, we need effective collaboration from the Vincentian Family to better see and hear the cries of the poor and thus serve them effectively as God did in choosing Moses to go liberate his oppressed people in Egypt.

Considering that in the Maghreb we live more or less the same missionary reality, it would be important to have a single missionary coordination team from the Vincentian Family, well formed by the International Vincentian Family, to face the challenges of the new disciples (converts), the challenge of immigrants and of married couples from different religions.

For this, we must rely on the calls and needs of the local Church that makes requests to us and entrusts us with responsibilities. As missionaries, we must always maintain our focus on reviving hope and restoring trust through our missions. This regional collaboration in the Maghreb with the entire Vincentian Family presents certain advantages: we get to know one another, able to help one another and become better organized ... all of which enables us to reach out to a greater number of people who are in need. It should be remembered that Africa has long been a gateway for migration to Europe.

SUGGESTIONS:

- Give missionaries the opportunity and the means, after a few years of mission, to form themselves outside their place of mission and thus acquire new knowledge and missionary methods;
- For North Africa, become present and open missions in those countries where the Daughters of Charity are established;
- Support the local projects of the missionaries;
- Following the example of the Maghreb, strengthen and support regional collaboration;
- Implement a policy to prioritize and support the local vocations;

Narcisse DJERAMBETE, CM
Missionary in Tunisia

The visit of Rev. Tomaž Mavrič



24th successor of St. Vincent de Paul on the occasion of the closing of the Jubilee Year of the 150th anniversary of the arrival of the Daughters of Charity and the Vincentians to Ecuador.

On Monday, September 20, they left for Santo Domingo de los Tsáchilas at 6:00 a.m. They visited three parishes the Congregation has in this Diocese and where 7 missionaries live. It is worth to mention in our Parish of Saint Vincent de Paul, in El Esfuerzo, about 24 km from Santo Domingo, they celebrated the Eucharist together with the Daughters of Charity. During the Holy Mass, Father Tomaž invited us to live always in fidelity to our spirituality inherited from our Founder. We shared lunch.

In the afternoon, they left for the Province of Manabí, concretely coming to Tosagua, to the Saint Luise de Marillac School, run by the Daughters of Charity. The Vincentian Family of Tosagua and Chone, received Father Tomaž, the Successor of St. Vincent de Paul, with great joy, and he encouraged them to work together, because together we can serve better.

At 10:30 a.m., they left for Paján, a new mission area of the Congregation of the Mission, with 120 communities that are ministered by four of our missionaries. The missionaries had the opportunity to have a personal dialogue with Fr. Tomaž. They shared a delicious traditional lunch and Fr. Guido Molina, the pastor, showed them the facilities of the Parish Center. After tasting a delicious coffee, they left for the Guayaquil House, where they rested.

On Wednesday, September 22, they spent the whole day in this town. They shared prayer and breakfast with Father José Luis García, Superior of the House, two aspirants and all the staff of our Miraculous Medal School. The teachers presented a brief history of the work and Father Tomaž invited the staff to continue serving the children who come to our School with love.

At mid-morning, they went to The Providence School, where they met with the Daughters of Charity who came from the Provinces neighboring Guayaquil. The Eucharist opening the Jubilee Year of the 150th Anniversary of the School marked this day. They shared a delicious lunch after the Eucharist. The personnel and students of the School attended it. Father Tomaž, invited all of them to always trust in Divine Providence, because St. Vincent always encouraged to follow Divine Providence.

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the celebration of the Closing of the Jubilee Year of the 150th anniversary of the arrival of the daughters and sons of St. Vincent de Paul and Louise de Marillac to this blessed land of Ecuador was postponed for a year.

It has been a privileged time of grace and blessing to have the Successor of our Father St. Vincent de Paul present. We hope it will become a milestone in our missionary journey, so that we may feel a new impulse of the Holy Spirit, and with the certainty of God's call we may walk in fidelity to the Spirit of St. Vincent de Paul and St. Louise de Marillac, because the work they began is the work of God, He inspired it, He sustains it.

Father Tomaž Mavrič, the Superior General, arrived in Quito on Sunday, September 19, accompanied by Father Aarón Gutiérrez, General Councilor. They were welcomed by a large delegation of the Daughters of Charity, led by the Visitatrix, Sr. Ana Maria Maldonado; also present was Fr. Max Reyes Sanchez, C.M., Visitor of Ecuador. They deserved some time to rest at the Conocoto House after the long trip.

On Thursday, September 23, the anniversary of Father Vincent's priestly ordination, they started the day at 6:00 a.m. because they had to travel several hundred kilometers on this day. The Mission House of the Daughters of Charity in El Triunfo was the first place they visited on this day. There they had breakfast and held a meeting with a delegation of VMY, who was encouraged to persevere in the mission. At 10:45 am, they left for Saint Vincent de Paul College in Riobamba, run by the Daughters of Charity. The hospitality of the Daughters of Charity and the Vincentian Family was outstanding. There was time for common prayer and Father Tomaž, delivered a message to all of them, but in a special way to the large number of young people. He told them: "What a joy it is to see so many young people here, who are the future of the Family, the future of the world". He invited them to let themselves be touched by the spirituality of Saint Vincent de Paul and to share with others. He invited them to be saints serving the poor, because Christ himself is in them.

They enjoyed a delicious lunch and an artistic program.

At 5:00 p.m. they left Riobamba for the community of Chachas, the last indigenous community in Cantón Quito, located about 3 km from our school in Conocoto. There he addressed the faithful waiting for him. Don Segundo Pilataxi, President of the community, expressed his joy that the Successor of St. Vincent de Paul had visited them.

On Friday, September 24, very early in the morning they left for the Province of Imbabura. At 11:20 a.m. he presided the Eucharist in our Parish of Imantag, which is eminently indigenous. The church was full and he was able to witness the affection and faith of our people. Later they shared lunch. In mid-afternoon they left to the St. Vincent de Paul nursing home, run by the AIC of Atuntaqui. It was a very beautiful meeting, because the elderly had the opportunity to share in a very close way with Father Tomaž and to feel the Vincentian ministry is effective. Then they went to Otavalo, specifically to the school of the Immaculate, where he held a fraternal meeting with the Daughters of Charity of several houses and delegations of the Vincentian Family of Imbabura. In the evening, they left for Conocoto

The visit of Rev. Tomaž Mavrič

for a well-deserved rest.

Saturday, September 25, was a great day, because delegations from all the branches of the Vincentian Family of Ecuador gathered in our St. Vincent de Paul School. They enjoyed a fraternal dialogue with each of the branches. Then he presided the Holy Eucharist for the closing of the Jubilee Year, which was concelebrated by several missionaries and animated by a choir made up of teachers and students of our school. Father Tomaž invited the Vincentian Family of Ecuador to dream together, because together we can do more. Afterwards, they enjoyed a delicious lunch. On Sunday, September 26, they visited the new parish of Our Lord of Mercy in Rumiloma in the morning accompanied by Fr. Bladimir Andrade, Superior of the Conocoto house and the pastor, toured all the communities that make up this beautiful parish. They shared breakfast and the Eucharist.

At noon, at lunchtime, they met with the missionaries of our Conocoto House and of the Pius XII House. After lunch they went to visit the Parish of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal in Quito. In the evening, the confreres took them on a tour of the historic center of Quito.

Monday, September 27th, was a double feast day: St. Vincent de Paul and the National Flag of Ecuador. They participated in the Civic Act in our Saint Vincent de Paul School in Conocoto. After this event they went to the Saint Charles Provincial House of the Daughters of Charity, where they celebrated the Mass of the Feast and shared a good lunch offered on the occasion the vows of some Daughters of Charity and the visit of the Successor of Saint Vincent de Paul. In the afternoon, they toured some of the works of the Daughters of Charity.

On Tuesday, September 28, they started the day very early, at 7:00 a.m.. They celebrated the Eucharist at the Rivera Rest House of the Daughters of Charity, where they also had breakfast.

At 9:00 a.m. they had a meeting with the staff and students of our St. Vincent de Paul School, who showed their artistic talents.

At 10:30 a.m., he held a conference with the Visitor of Ecuador and his Council. At the meeting, they presented the reality of the Province and the desires to continue in fidelity. Father Tomaž and Father Aarón thanked each one of the missionaries for the good they are doing.

At noon, they shared a delicious lunch with all the personnel.

At 3:30 p.m. they left for the Oasis Marillac Rest Home, where they were received by the tenderness of God Himself manifested by each one of the Sisters. The testimony of perseverance and joy invaded our hearts. Before leaving for the airport, they shared a delicious lojano coffee.

At 9:30 p.m. they left for the Rome, the Eternal City.

Thank you very much for the visit to the land of Ecuador.



The Vincentian Brothers. Past, present and future.



On Sunday, September 26, the eve of the feast of St. Vincent de Paul, almost a hundred members of the Vincentian Family of Salamanca and Zamora gathered at the Center of Spirituality of the Vincentian Missionaries of Salamanca. They were called to celebrate together, as a family, the feast of our Founder.

José Manuel Villar Suárez, CM, current Visitor of the Province of St. Vincent de Paul - Spain, presided at the Eucharist, along with the Superior of the Community, Fr. Santiago Arribas, CM, the Director of the Students, Fr. José Antonio González, CM, and Fr. Manuel Botet, CM, coordinator of the Vincentian Missionary Evangelization Team, as well as other Vincentian priests from the house and the infirmary.

So far, so good. For many years, in their large house, the Vincentian Community has been welcoming the different branches of the Vincentian Family and many friends of the house to celebrate the feast of St. Vincent de Paul. But this year there was a new event.

During the celebration of the Eucharist, a Vincentian Juan Enrique Hernansanz Camacho pronounced his vows as a member of the Congregation of the Mission. Until this moment he was its admitted member. However, through the vows, he was definitively incorporated into the Congregation, with all his rights and duties. Nowadays, it can be said such an event is extraordinary in Spain, because it is so rare. But there was one more novelty in it. Juan Enrique has chosen to be a member of the Congregation of the Mission as a Brother, that is to say, keeping his status as a layman.

Let us recall here, for any reader who does not know the Congregation in detail, what numbers 4 and 52 of our Constitutions say:

C.4.—In order that, with God's grace, it might achieve its purpose, the Congregation of the Mission, which consists of clerics and lay persons, strives to be filled with the sensitivity and attitudes of Christ, indeed with his very spirit which is particularly clear in the examples from the Gospels explained in the Common Rules.

C.52. §1. – Among the members, all of whom share in the royal priesthood of Christ through baptism and confirmation, there are clerics and brothers, but all are known as missionaries.

Juan Enrique has discerned that his vocational path is to be one of those missionaries who, being a layperson within the Congregation, gives his life to the following of Christ, evangelizer of the poor.

At present, it can be said that an event of this kind is even more extraordinary because it is so infrequent. One of the Brothers of this province, the present writer, took his vows twenty years ago.

This shortage of Vincentian Brother vocations is not only in old Europe, it is a constant throughout the world. For this reason, Fr. Tomaž Mavrič, CM, Superior General, is trying to promote the specific vocation of Brother within the Congregation of the Mission..

Juan Enrique's parents, Juan and Victoria, other relatives and friends, as well as Fr. Federico Alfonso, pastor of La Asunción Parish in Puertollano, the town where his family lives, and Antonio López, pastor of Our Lady of the Angels in Tomelloso, were present at the event..

Three other Vincentian Brothers were present, too: Samuel Cid Cid, CM, 99, who professed his vows in 1941, Ramón Quiroga Quiroga, CM, 89, who professed his vows in 1950, and Francisco Berbegal Vázquez, CM, 47, who professed his vows in 2001. It was a very emotional celebration. To witness the willingness of a man who desires to continue the mission of Christ, giving himself to evangelize the poor in the Congregation all the time of his life; and who, in order to fulfill this vocation, chooses chastity, poverty and obedience, is still a moving act. We congratulate Juan Enrique on his vows and wish him all the best in his new assignment, the mission in Honduras, assuring him of our prayers. Brother Francisco Berbegal Vázquez, CM.

Hno. Francisco Berbegal Vázquez, CM.

NOMINATIONES / CONFIRMATIONES

GONELLA Bruno	01/09/2021 (started 29/11/2021)	Director DC San Vincenzo-Italia
GONZÁLEZ HERNANDO Joaquín	12/10/2021 (started 27/11/2021)	Director DC Spain - Centro

ORDINATIONES

CRUZ VELA Juan	Sac	SVP	16/10/2021
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NECROLOGIUM

Nomen	Cond.	Dies ob.	Prov.	Aet.	Voc.
BIERNASKI Lourenço	Sac	06/10/2021	CUR	92	74
GUTOWSKI Edmund R.	Sac	07/10/2021	NAN	88	69
GABBIADINI Alberto Giuseppe	Sac	18/10/2021	CNG	94	75
KRASNY Waldemar Grzegorz	Sac	25/10/2021	POL	75	51
CALVO CALVO Gonzalo	Sac	27/10/2021	SVP	75	55
MONDÉJAR IZQUIERDO José María	Sac	30/10/2021	SVP	87	70
KENNEDY Michael J.	Sac	31/10/2021	ORL	99	77

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