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1712 – 2012
300th Anniversary of the writing of
True Devotion to the Blessed Virgin



Assembly of the General Delegation of Francophone Africa (GDFA): To Provide Mary with Children...

Testimony of a participant

The following were present at the Assembly (in order of perpetual profession): Eugenio Cucchi, Jean de Dieu Ekanga, Jean de Dieu Bokumu, Frédéric Bolumbu, Théophile Molepelia and Constantin Atalipa. Brother Karlos was prevented from attending by sickness.

Let us pray: For the Company of Mary throughout the world, and especially for the small flock of Montfortians working at present in Kisangani in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Lord, we are carrying out the mission of St Louis Marie de Montfort that is perhaps less well-known, the mission of Trusting Prayer. With his trust in the Providence of God, Father de Montfort encourages us to form our young confreres, in line with his prayer (for Missionaries), to provide children and servants for Mary, our Mother, and for the Church... We ask you to provide these children, through us, in quality and in quantity...

In the service of the Congregation, two General Assistants, **Fathers Luigi Gritti and Enrique Gonzalez**, came to Kisangani in the RDC, to the home of the little Francophone African General Delegation.

On the subject of this "home", let us recall an extract from the Report of the Congregation 2005-2011: "Our limited and modest presence in the RDC presented us with a choice: either to continue with it, or to bring it to a final end. Our choice was to continue with it, but at the same time seeking to strengthen it with an external element (in fact, an ordinary missionary presence)... So we asked the Italian Province for help from their Delegation in Malawi. At the present time, the little Delegation is in the process of reorganising itself with three communities in the Diocese of Kisangani (one for formation, a second for pastoral activities and a third for administration and recruitment)." This remains our real challenge!

From their arrival on Tuesday 20 December 2011, their stay from 21 to 30, in turn in the Formation/Philosophy community of Edith Stein (21-23); the parish community of St Paul Kibibi (23-25); and finally, as in the beginning, the residential community of the Delegation Superior: these stays in the three Montfortian communities of our entity led us to give thanks to God that we had received, in so short a time, so much from the emissaries of the Congregation.

The young Delegation, or more exactly this "home" in the RDC, was called for and established in the heart of Africa in 2008, in an effort to strengthen the missionary work and the administration of closeness in the Francophone African part of the Montfortian family. Here, there is no doubt that a study of the conditions for the feasibility of plans for reinforcements by confreres from elsewhere, perhaps from Asia, needs to be envisaged as soon as possible to improve effectiveness. It is necessary that more confreres take the risk of coming here to tread our soil: the "pied-a-terre" house in Kinshasa. Here there is a paradox: too much discussion of the mission, but too little desire to take risks to push this mission in terms of personnel for the Congo... Or else the entity must disappear... Yet the "home" remains warmed by the fire of the Holy Spirit: there's the challenge!



*From left to right standing : Frédéric Bolumbu, Théophile Molepelia, J.Enrique González, Eugenio Cucchi, Jean de Dieu Bokumu.
Sitting : Jean de Dieu Ekanga, Constantin Atalipa, Luigi Gritti.*

In anticipation of this visit, the Council of the G DFA expressed the wish to see this visit take place effectively "among" us. At the end of the visit, we are satisfied to note that the missionaries did live freely among us; together we experienced the joy, for some, of rediscovering old friends, and for others, of meeting them for the first time. They really did stay "with us", as true friends of Immanuel.

Regarding the house of formation, Providence: 7 postulants out of 22 are going to finish their third year of Postulancy. Their formation, a priority of our presence here, has thus far been provided by two confreres. But these two are also engaged with the Edith Stein centre of Philosophy (teaching and part of the management committee): we recall that Edith Stein is a work of the Congregation, in collaboration with two other congregations working in Kisangani; as we come to the end of our first term of office as its directors, we dare to say that a detailed review of the congregation needs to be made, so that this collaboration might continue in due and proper form...

The pastoral ministry proper to the community is carried out principally through the Sunday ministry that we do at the military chaplaincy. This has a long tradition among the Montfortians in Kisangani, and we are happy to take it on.

For the two days of their stay, our guests made themselves available to listen to the confreres of this community, before meeting with the group of 22 on two occasions, that is, the postulants: they themselves were not without their preoccupations. Being prepared to continue their formation elsewhere, English and the scholasticate in Kenya, with a journey to France for the novitiate, the

uncertainty concerning visas, etc., are all challenges for us. If they are to contribute more to the survival of the community, their sharing alone in the manual work and the organisation of community services, with freedom and responsibility, are essential things that we ask of them. It is up to the Congregation to supply the funding, however modest it may be.

The work of Vocations promotion and pastoral care, has been a mission open to the members, but whose activities are coordinated by a leader. We recognise the difficulty: the risk involved in recruiting members other than in our own area of presence, placing our trust especially in the Daughters of Wisdom or the Brothers of St Gabriel. We must naturally add to this the question of candidates who have successfully completed University courses. The discussions we had and the issues raised were of great usefulness for our future.

The management of goods in the service of the mission constitutes a major challenge for our young entity, which remains optimistic in the projects already developed since 2009. With regard to these projects, the prioritisation to be given to some over others, and the courage to make a start despite the lack of viability, are major challenges for our entity as it continues to search. The bursar's office, after observation, is offering itself to lead this service with the support of each member.

Regarding the pastoral community of St Paul, the priest who is working as parish priest with a religious from the Augustinians of the Assumption, received our hosts with deference, letting them see, on the one hand, his joy in being a pastor, and, on the other hand, his anxious desire to have a bigger team for greater effectiveness. This is also the sense of these proposals presented to the Assembly.

"Provide children and servants for your Mother." While our meeting, our prayer, our presentations, questions and discussions, but most of all the summings-up of the visiting Councillors, constitute, so to speak, a great event, one could just as well interpret this "triduum" as the greatest message of Christmas and year's end, addressed to us by the Lord for a real renewal in Spirit and in truth: welcoming, optimism, courage and apostolic zeal, brotherly love, etc.

The most important questions, in my view, concerned the quality of our life as brothers, in a trinity community so few in numbers. Just as stubborn history attests the fact that we have lost so many men in the past 15 years, so we really must, today more than ever, renew our confidence in God who calls us by loving us and having trust in us. This God provides us with all sorts of trumps for working effectively in his harvest. The qualities and weaknesses/challenges that are ours, allow us to come back to reality and to begin, each one of us, by looking at ourselves so as to have a better vision of the evangelical form that we want to give to the G DFA throughout 2012 and for the future.

For the life or death of the G DFA entity, "Who is supposed to have really done what? To what effect?" In place of mutual accusations of sad memory, our "celebration" called us to go forward, each of us with an awareness of our limits, but freely, to the goal of recognising our own qualities. This way of acting and living helped us very much to dare to go forward in truth, towards the stature of Christ.

After all our exchanges and discussions, we had to sing, from the bottom of our hearts, in the Company of Mary, the *Magnificat*, while uncovering in community the perceptions of the confreres. We welcomed the expression of the image given to the confreres in joy, before recognising that we are in need of grace where weakness seems to sully us! "My grace is enough for you." Fortunately, Lord, I can count on your grace! Thank you for the community that welcomes and supports me, just as I am, when there is nothing to fear; this is what is truly called a miracle: love, compassion, but also the courage to grow as I face up to my limits rather than fleeing them.

As I come to the end of this account, I am convinced, for myself, that one day, with patience and at the end of the long night of our history, the real process regarding what is actually going on in the RDC, in Africa, will see the light of day!

Jean de Dieu Bokumu, s.m.m.



First Professions

On the 16th of October 2011, at Montfort (France) : Henri Koli-Te-Kwalo ALOTEREMBI (R.D.C.), Martin Kombozi BOLITI (R.D.C.), Théophile Bandio YALOSO (R.D.C.).

Final Professions

On the 15th of August 2011, at Malang (Indonesia) : Fidelis BOLO WOTAN, Heredi SUHARTONO, Kosmas AMBO PATAN, Melkior JELALU, Mikael JOFRI KELEN, Rofinus JEWARUT, Willibrordus Krista SELMAN.

On the 23rd of October 2011, at Lima (Peru) : Mauri Sebastião RODRIGUES, Roberto Carlos GRANADOS AYAPI.

On the 30th of October 2011, at Tsararivotra-Soavina (Madagascar) : Michel RAVELO.

On the 1st of December 2011, at Makati City (Philippines) : Reynaldo F. SILVERIO.

On the 17th of December 2011, at Andraisoro (Madagascar) : Achille RAMIANDRISOA LANTO TAHIANA, Alexandre FANOMEZANTSOA, Jean-Joël RANDRIANARIVOMANANA.

Diaconate Ordinations

On the 17th of August 2011, at Malang (Indonesia) : Fidelis BOLO WOTAN, Heredi SUHARTONO, Kosmas AMBO PATAN, Melkior JELALU, Mikael JOFRI KELEN, Rofinus JEWARUT, Willibrordus Krista SELMAN.

On the 18th of December 2011, at Antsobolo (Madagascar) : Achille RAMIANDRISOA LANTO TAHIANA, Alexandre FANOMEZANTSOA, Jean-Joël RANDRIANARIVOMANANA.

On the 21st of January 2012, at Huaycan (Peru) : Roberto Carlos GRANADOS AYAPI.

Priestly Ordinations

On the 4th of January 2012, at Chikka Kamanahalli (India) : Jeevan GABRIEL.

On the 11th of January 2012, at Gadenahalli (India) : John Baptist Anthon CHINNAPPA.

On the 19th of January 2012, at Randham Korattur (India) : Soundhar RAJAN.

On the 26th of January 2012, at V. Naganahalli (India) : Gnana Prakash CHOWRAPPA.

On the 31st of January 2012, at Tumarikoppa (India) : Deepak Joseph KONGANAVAR.

On the 16th of February 2012, at Wardhannapet (India) : Kiran Babu JALAGAM.

New Provincial Administration of France

On the 25th of October 2011, the Provincial Chapter of France, has elected **Fr. Olivier MAIRE** as the Provincial of France. His Councillors are : **Bro. Daniel BUSNEL**, **Fr. Robert CHAPOTTE**, **Fr. Yves LE BORGNE**, and **Fr. Marco PASINATO**.



From Left to right : Yves Le Borgne, Daniel Busnel, Olivier Maire, Robert Chapotte, Marco Pasinato.

New Provincial Administration of Netherlands

On the 7th of November 2011, during the Provincial Chapter of Netherlands, **Fr. Petrus (Peter) DENNEMAN** has been elected as the Provincial for a mandate of six years. His Councillors are : **Fr. Simon KUIJTEN** (vicar) and **Fr. Peter Michel Maria (Piet) DERCKX**.



From left to right : Simon Kuijten, Peter Denneman, Piet Derckx.

New Appointment

On the 5th of December 2011, Fr. Santino BREMBILLA, Superior General, with the consent of his Council, has appointed, **Fr. Pierre BONHOMMEAU** as the associate Secretary General and the Superior of the General House community.

New Postulator General

On the 8th of December 2011, Fr. Santino BREMBILLA, Superior General, with the consent of his Council has named **Fr. Joseph Raja Rao THELAGATHOTI** as the Postulator General of the Company of Mary.

Commission for the Montfortian Associates

On the 15th of December 2011, Fr. Santino BREMBILLA, Superior General, with the consent of his Council, has created a Commission to promote the formation and exchange of experiences among the Montfortian Associates world over.

He has named **Fr. Arnold SUHARDI** the coordinator of this commission. The other members of the Commission are: **Fr. Jorge Enrique GONZÁLEZ VÁSQUEZ**, **Fr. Alfio MANDELLI** and **Fr. Pierre BONHOMMEAU**.

New Novice Master: Latin-American Novitiate of Paipa, Colombia

On the 7th of December 2011, Fr. Santino BREMBILLA, Superior General, with the consent of his Council has named **Fr. Jaime Oved CABREJO RUIZ**, of the Province of Colombia, as the Novice Master for the Latin-American Novitiate of Paipa, Colombia. This nomination will come into effect with the next batch of Novices. He has also named **Fr. Adolfo BETANCUR VELASQUEZ** of the Province of Colombia as "socius".

New Councillor in the General Delegation of Peru-Brazil

On the 8th of December 2011, Fr. Santino BREMBILLA, Superior General with the consent of his Council, has named **Fr. José Angel JULCAHUANCA PARIATÓN** as the Councillor in the General Delegation of Peru-Brazil in the place of Fr. Luis SALVADOR AVILA who has served until now.

New Rector: Latin-American Scholasticate at Lima, Peru

On the 7th of December 2011, Fr. Santino BREMBILLA, Superior General with the consent of his Council has named **Fr. José Angel JULCAHUANCA PARIATÓN**, of the General Delegation of Peru-Brazil as the Rector of the International Scholasticate at Lima, starting from 1st of January 2012. He has also named **Fr. Michel LEMARIÉ** of the Province of France, as "socius".

New Administration of the International Community of Papua – New Guinea

On the 12th of December 2011, Fr. Santino BREMBILLA, Superior General, with the consent of his Council has named, **Fr. Rozario MENEZES** Superior of the International Community of Papua – New Guinea, for a mandate of four years (only this time), starting from 1st of January 2012. His Councillors are : **Bro. Nirina Régnier RAKOTONDRAMANANA** and **Fr. Aloisius BANGGUR**.



From left to right : Rozario Menezes, Nirina Régnier Rakotondramanana, Aloisius Banggur.

Change of Juridical Status in Ecuador

On the 7th of December, Fr. Santino BREMBILLA, Superior General, with the consent of his Council, has accepted the request of the Province of France to change the juridical status of the confrères living in **Ecuador** from being a local community to that of **Provincial Delegation of France**.

New Administration: Province of Italy

On the 5th of January 2012, the Provincial Chapter of Italy has elected **Fr. Angelo EPIS** as the Provincial Superior. His Councillors are: **Fr. Luigi COLLEONI** (vicar), **Fr. Battista CORTINOVIS**, **Fr. Domenico SEMINARA** and **Fr. Gianangelo MAFFIOLETTI**.



Angelo Epis

Battista Cortinovis

Domenico Seminara

Luigi Colleoni

Gianangelo Maffioletti

New Administration: Province of USA

On the 19th of January 2012, during the Provincial Chapter of the Province of USA, **Fr. Matthew CONSIDINE** has been re-elected as the Provincial of USA for a mandate of three years. His Councillors are : **Fr. Gerald FITZSIMMONS**, **Fr. William CONSIDINE**, and **Fr. James BRADY**.

New Administration: Vice-Province of India

On the 6th of January 2012, the Chapter of the Vice-Province of India has elected **Fr. Maria Cletus DAVID** as the Superior of the Vice-Province. His Councillors are: **Fr. Bala Showri POLAMARASETTY**, **Fr. Joseph DAVID**, **Fr. Jesuraj MADALAIMUTHU**, and **Fr. Shibi Jose THUMULLIL**.



From left to right : Joseph David, Bala Showri Polamarasetty, Maria Cletus David, Shibi Jose Thumullil, Jesuraj Madalaimuthu.

New Administration: Province of Haiti

On the 14th of January 2012, during the Provincial Chapter in Haiti, **Fr. Laurent Emilien PIERRE** has been re-elected as the Provincial for a mandate of three years. His Councillors are : **Fr. Wilner DONÉCIA**, **Fr. Wismick JEAN CHARLES**, **Fr. Syriaque CINÉ** and **Fr. Jean Jacques SAINT-LOUIS**.



*From left to right in back-row : Wilner Donécia, Jean Jacques Saint-Louis,
In front : Syriaque Ciné, Laurent Emilien Pierre, Wismick Jean Charles.*

New Administration: Province of Colombia

On the 26th of January 2012, during the Provincial Chapter, **Fr. Gonzalo TABARES BUILES** has been elected as the Provincial. His Councillors are : **Fr. Oswaldo JARAMILLO OSORIO**, **Fr. Jaime Oved CABREJO RUIZ**, **Fr. Gabriel Antonio RIVEROS PRIETO**, and **Fr. Edmer Iván SALGADO GONZÁLEZ**.



From Left to Right : Jaime Oved Cabrejo, Edmer Iván Salgado, Gonzalo Tabares, Oswaldo Jaramillo, Gabriel Antonio Riveros.

New Administration: Vice-Province of Canada

On the 30th of January 2012, during the Chapter of the Vice-Province of Canada, **Fr. Claude SIGOUIN** has been named as the Superior of the Vice-Province for a mandate of three years. His Councillors are : **Fr. Jean-Guy RICHER**, **Fr. Wilfrid BERGERON**, and **Fr. Gaéтан OUIMET**.



From Left to Right : Jean-Guy Richer, Claude Sigouin, Gaéтан Ouimet, Wilfrid Bergeron.

New Administration: General Delegation of Madagascar

On the 9th of February 2012, Fr. Santino BREMBILLA, Superior General, has named **Fr. Alexandre RANDRIAMIHARISOA** as the Superior of the General Delegation of Madagascar until 31 December 2015. His Councillors are : **Fr. Kiki Bruno RANDRIANASOLO**, **Fr. Jean-Baptiste RAKOTOARISOA**, **Fr. Paul-Emile RAKOTONJANAHARY**, and **Bro. Ernest RAMANANJANAHARY LALANANDRASANA**.



From Left to Right : Ernest Ramananjahary L., Paul-Emile Rakotonjanahary, Alexandre Randriamiharisoa, Santino Brembilla, Kiki Bruno Randrianasolo, Jean-Baptiste Rakotoarisoa.

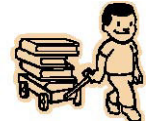
New Administration: Vice-Province of Indonesia

On the 17th of February 2012, during the Chapter of the Vice-Province of Indonesia, **Fr. Kasimirus JUMAT** has been elected as the Superior of the Vice-Province of Indonesia for a mandate of six years. His Councillors are : **Fr. Yusup GUNARTO** (vicar), **Fr. Konradus HANCU**, **Fr. Yosef JEHARA**, and **Fr. Antonius TENSI**.



From Left to Right : Antonius Tensi, Yusup Gunarto, Kasimirus Jumat, Konradus Hancu, Yosef Jehara.

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L' Écho Montfortain

Viale dei Monfortani, 65
00135 ROMA (Tel: +39 06.30.50.203)

echo.montfortain@gmail.com