

THE APOSTLE

News from the Salvatorians in Britain & Ireland

WEDNESDAY

LENT
2020

THIS ISSUE

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Mission: bringing Christ to all people

What does Lent mean to you?

Kalamba and Chingulungulu Projects



The Salvatorians

191 High Road, Harrow Weald, Middx, HA3 5EE, UK



Father
Richard Mway SDS
Provincial Superior



Dear friends,
I believe that you now all know that at the beginning of every year, The Salvatorians here in the British Pro-province come together for their chapter and plan for the future. This year it was even more special as we had also to elect a new leadership team and we also celebrated and congratulated two confreres who celebrated personal milestones: Fr Malachy McBride (70 years of religious profession) and Fr George Malecki (50 years of religious profession).

Our discussions during the meetings were very frank and open and we were able to reaffirm our commitment to our ministry. I was re-elected for a new term with all of my previous Council. I will continue to serve my confreres trusting in the love and kindness of our Saviour.

As a community, we continue to face a similar trend to other Salvatorian units and other religious communities in Europe: a smaller group of active members in comparison with the retired members. We should note the help from other units in the Society that continue to help us maintain our main apostolates (Wealdstone, Plumstead, Abbots Langley, Chipperfield and Thornbury). The topic of great concern to all of us is: how are we to survive without new members?

Going forward, the Chapter made some priorities:

- Our future depends on new life; where will it come from?

- Beatification of our Venerable Founder Francis Jordan

- Work closely with other European Salvatorians and in other parts of the world

- Look into the question of the renovation of the Wealdstone Community House

- Improved induction of overseas members

- Safeguarding has a vital role in all our apostolates

The three days of the Chapter went very fast but left very positive impressions on the participants and parishioners at St Joseph's. Masses were celebrated with the parishioners. Each day had a particular theme:

- Day 1: Celebration with the Jubilarians

- Day 2: Profession of faith of the Provincial-Elect

- Day 3: Mass for our deceased confreres

It is now time for work hoping that you will pray for us as we do for you. God bless and with assurances of my prayers,

Fr Richard Mway SDS.



GOD'S WAYS ARE MARVELLOUS AND I THANK HIM EVERYDAY FOR HIS PROVIDENCE IN CALLING ME AND SENDING ME AS A MISSIONARY TO TANZANIA, IT HAS BEEN THE MOST FULFILLING LIFE I COULD HAVE WISHED FOR.

Lent through the lens of Mission

When I entered the Junior Seminary in 1949 the Salvatorians of the British Province had no history of foreign missions. In 1955 however, out of the blue Frs. Luke and Augustine who had taught us in the seminary were sent to Tanganyika, East Africa. They joined four Salvatorian confreres from the US Province. They were received well by the German Benedictines who were the original missionaries in Southern Tanganyika and within a year the Salvatorians were given their own area in which to minister.

By this time I had finished my Noviciate. In England we were able to follow the progress in a magazine "The Salvatorian" published by the US Province. I remember copying a map of our area and pinning it up next to my bed and filling in the mission stations as they were opened. Each year one or two of the newly ordained were sent to the mission.

I had always wanted to do pastoral work as a priest, and now I felt drawn to the missions.

There were two of us ordained in 1962, Fr. Laurence Murphy and myself, both of us had volunteered for the missions. Laurence was chosen to go and I was put to studying for a degree with the prospect of spending my working life teaching in our school in Wealdstone. I had started with the studies but as it happened Laurence was found to have a stomach ulcer and the doctor recommended that he should not go to Africa. So I was told to get ready and I left England and arrived in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania on 10th December 1962. (as it turned out a couple of years later Laurence was sent to our new foundation in Australia and is still there 'hale and hearty'!

God granted me to work 47 years in Tanzania building up the local church there and now the tables have turned and it is Salvatorians from Tanzania coming to the UK to minister to the Christian community here. God's ways are marvellous and I thank him everyday for his Providence in calling me and sending me as a missionary to Tanzania, it has been the most fulfilling life I could have wished for.



FR. LIAM TALBOT SDS

Why a Missionary ?

The seeds of my missionary calling were sown when I was very young, my Grandmother had a mission box for pennies to deposited and had also a magazine with photos of poorly clothed African children who had beaming smiles on their faces. I was impressed !

I was delighted when, near the time for my ordination , our Province undertook to go to the Southern region of Tanganyika (Tanzania) I volunteered straight away.

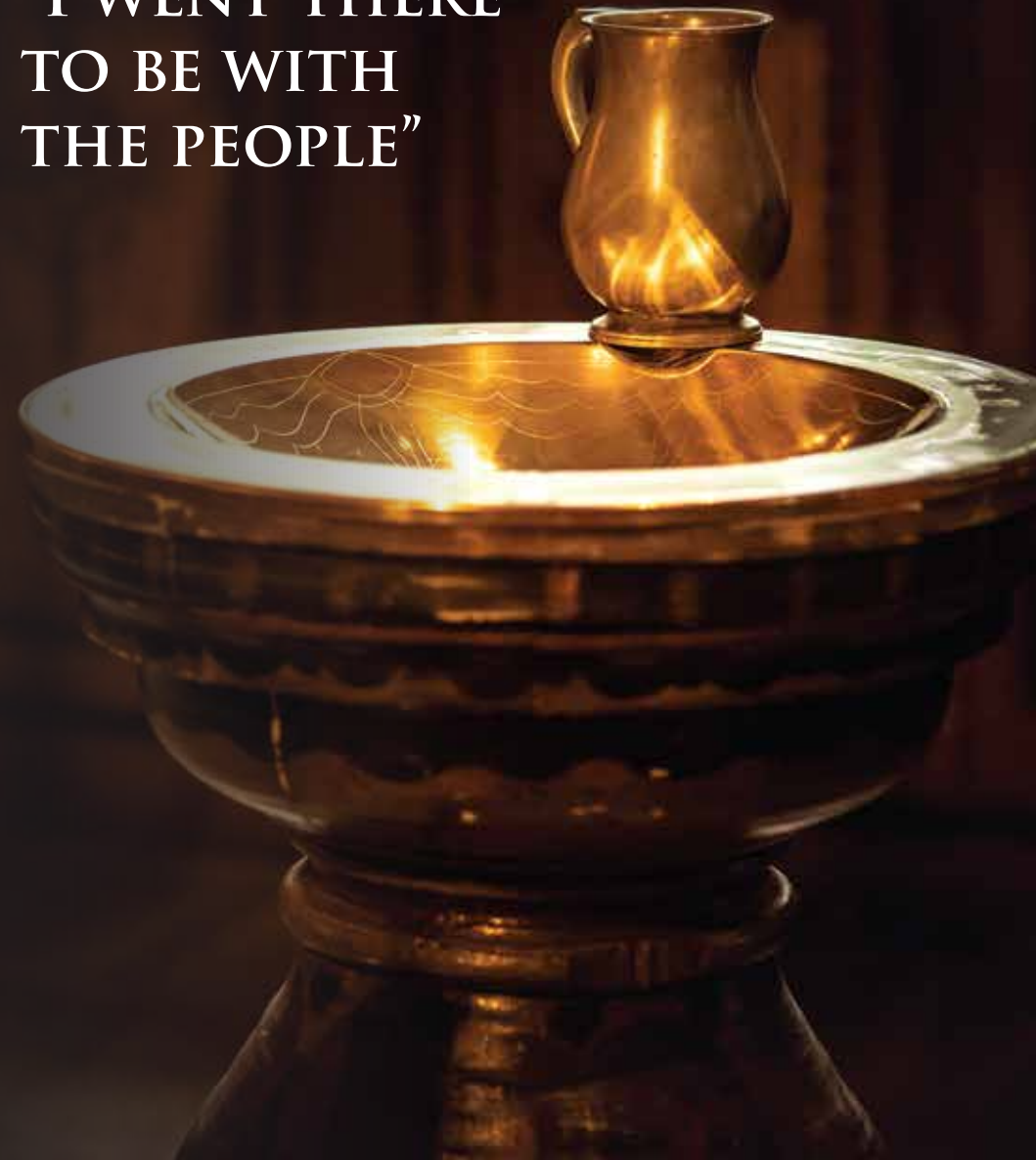
On reflection now, I realise I went there to be with the people, not to convert or baptise as many people as possible.

This is important because, besides the sacraments and preaching, I was part of people's lives as an ambulance and hearse driver, hospital and army chaplain, postman., etc. No matter what country a missionary works in , by caring and sharing a missionary is not only needed, but needed!

Lent was important, especially to the Catechumens who spent this time preparing for the baptism at Easter and often living at a mission site during this time. The Easter celebration was a joyful one for people from far and near with all partaking in an open air meal. This surely was Agape!



“I WENT THERE
TO BE WITH
THE PEOPLE”



Mission: bringing Christ to all people

Father
Patrick Keene



How did God lead you to become a missionary?

Father Patrick: I always felt that I wanted to become a missionary, since I was very young. But I knew that it was impossible, because I am the oldest of eleven, and we were a very poor family. As time passed by, I managed to get the opportunity, at the age of 27: I joined the Salvatorians. I wanted to go to Africa, with the natives; I thought it was my gift to be around them.

What were you doing before you became a missionary?

Father Patrick: I worked in the building site. I worked in the building industry for about 12 years. I think God was preparing me to go to Tanzania. I have built hospitals and schools.

What advice would you give to somebody that felt that God is calling him or her to be missionaries? What would you tell them.

Father Patrick: I would tell them to come and visit, come and see! That is pretty important because they will see the reality, and then God will be able to help them see the answer.

How do you see lent through the lens of mission?

Father Patrick: Father, it is always lent for us. Our people are always suffering, they are always very poor. They live in constant fear, they suffer, they have no money; they might have one chicken, but apart from it they have nothing. Lent is the way of their life, they understand Christ suffering, they have no problem understanding this; they don't need to theologise it: they live it.

What can I missionary do to help them?

Father Patrick: First of all to be faithful, to be present, to build their confidence and not demand too much from them. They need to be seen as persons. A missionary should not turn away when trouble comes; as God walks with us, we should walk with them. You know, I cannot preach to them, because I live in an Islamic area. But I live the Gospels, with the Salvatorian sisters, in the hospital and the school: through the loving care of the sisters, they are brought to Jesus, in His Divine Providence. What is important that we as Christians can give witness of God's loving care.

How can people and churches here in the UK better help your work?

Father Patrick: To come and visit, because it will do them good. It will also do us good. They will see the reality, not through a television or a paper. It is important, they should come and not as tourist. They should come to a mission with a commitment, they should come for one week or two weeks, and they should make that commitment to live in the mission, not to see animals. If they really want to find God, come and suffer the pain of just being there for one week or two days, whatever it is.

WHAT IS LENT FOR YOU

For me Lent is a time for reflection where I recognise and confess my failures and resolve to make amendments through penance, alms giving and self denial. During Lent, I like to add a daily reflection on the Scriptures. During the Lent season many of us commit to fasting and giving up certain luxuries; I like to add a daily reflection on the Scriptures.

I wish everyone a good Lent and Easter celebration, specially those in St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Harrow Wealdstone.

Angela Bosah



For me, Lent is a time for reflection, a time for us to examine our conscience and to renew our souls with The Lord Our God. This we do by preparing ourselves to examine our conscience before visiting the Blessed Sacrament of Confession to cleanse our souls.

To visit the Penitential is never easy, but then, The Passion that Our Lord Jesus Christ endured for us all in complete suffering and obedience, was far from easy either. We, however, are asked to join Jesus and his passion when we visit the Stations of the Cross in prayer and reflect on Christ's Crucifixion, which he suffered for our salvation.

The Virgin Mother of Our Lord Jesus Christ has made many apparitions. In all of them, the message is the same. Our Heavenly Mother requests us all to; Pray, Pray, Pray.....Penance, Penance, Penance. This was Our Lady's message at Lourdes, Fatima and Medjugorje, (to name just a few). There can be no better time to be obedient to Our Lady's request than to put this into action in Lent.

Then of course we have Easter Sunday to look forward to when we can all rejoice at Our Lord Jesus Christ's Ascension into Heaven. An aim for us all to attain, where we can adore, praise and worship the Lord Our God eternally, Amen.

Michael O'Connell



For me Lent is a opportunity for getting closer to God, through prayer, penance and charity. It is a time of solemnity and self-reflection to recognise our failings and live a better life, based on the teachings of Jesus Christ.

It is an opportunity for us to become better people, not only for ourself but for other people as well

Farah Targino

I remember last year, during the sermon given on the 2nd Sunday of Lent, the priest said that by now some of us would have already broken our Lenten resolutions. It was a relief to me that he expected us to have already broken our Lenten promise. Perhaps he had as well!! Usually I choose and do something that I am not very good at, but should be doing. But my resolution falls by the wayside and I am often not much better by the end of Lent. So I am wondering if I can help myself, and maybe you too, by reflecting on what we are trying to achieve in Lent. Jesus said to the young man, in Mark 10:18, 'Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone.' It is as if Jesus is saying that all His goodness comes from the Father. Jesus does say in John 16:15 'Everything the Father has is mine,' and 'everything' does include the Father's goodness. In the Catechism of the Catholic Church it says our vocation is to be conformed to Christ (see paragraph 1694). So as we are to be like Christ, we need to acknowledge all the good in us comes from the Father.

What good in myself do I want to thank the Father for? What good in you do you want to thank the Father for? What good, dear Father, do you want to give me this Lent? What should I be asking for? Please Holy Spirit help me know the gift and grace the Father wants to give me this Lent, and help me to co-operate with it.

Liz Gregory



Clean Water for Kalamba Appeal

Father
Paul Harris SDS
Provincial Bursar



As you may well remember, Father Richard and I visited the Democratic Republic of Congo last summer. During this time it was my privilege to be able to hand over funds for various projects undertaken by the Salvatorians in such a needy place. Indeed, there's nothing more satisfying to be able to see what wonderful things are happening with the help of our Salvatorian parishes and individual benefactors here in the UK and Ireland.

The need for clean water in the Kalamba region of the Katanga province of the DRC is perhaps at its most urgent - one can survive without electric and even without food for a number of weeks, but to survive without clean water is impossible. Very sadly, this is one of the biggest challenges for the people of this remote place where no real infrastructure exists.

Thankfully, the Salvatorians are working towards bringing this lack of provision to an end. Since the last edition of this publication the response so far to the Kalamba Appeal has been very good indeed. As such, and motivated by numerous letters of encouragement from our donors, our province has decided to continue in support of providing clean water for Kalamba and - hopefully - the surrounding villages.

This Lent, aside from our appeal in this publication, we are also calling upon the help of our parishes to respond in an ambitious way. The biggest and most costly step in providing clean water is to dig a well in the right place and, in Kalamba at least, to dig deep enough. Approximate estimates with a reputable company to dig just one well come in at around £36,000. However, if we aim to dig another two in the surrounding areas the cost will be around £74,000.00, given that all the heavy plant will already be in the locality.

For those who worship in a Salvatorian parish, you will be hearing more about this appeal soon and I would like to say a huge thank you in advance for whatever you are able to achieve, be it a fundraising event, a special collection, or a donation from existing funds.

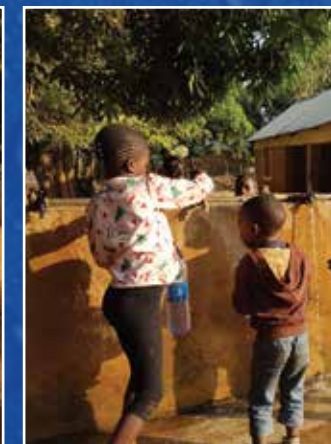
For those who regularly donate to our appeals, please accept our heartfelt thanks for your continual and much-needed financial support for our work - your donations over the years have helped in so many different ways in our mission of being the goodness and kindness of God to those who are in most need.

Again, I thank you all very much indeed for the response so far to this appeal, and in anticipation of your continued generosity, thank you again for whatever else you can do to help us provide clean water for Kalamba.

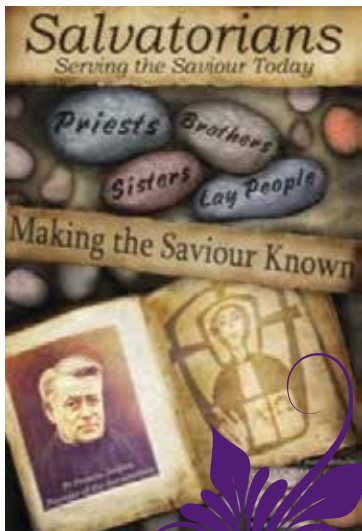
BEFORE



AFTER



A KIND THANK YOU



Thank you very much for your kind donation in form of mass intention. Your support for our work throughout the world is much appreciated.

Our Order currently has over 250 students training for the priesthood in various parts of America, Africa, Asia and Europe. With your help we can give them the best training possible so that they are able to be true Apostles of Christ in the world of today.

We will include your intentions in our daily Masses. Please be assured of our prayers for your family and loved ones.

PRAYER INTENTIONS

We will include the names of your deceased family and friends in our Novena of Masses and assure you of continued remembrance in our community prayers

Please remember the Salvatorians in your Last Will

“Making The Saviour Known”

If you wish to enclose a donation for our work in the Missions and for the training of students for the priesthood, please include the amount in the box below.

£ / €

Return this form in the envelope provided with your offering / cheque made payable to
The Salvatorian Trustees
Registered Charity No: 231410

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PRAYERS & SUPPORT

GIFT AID DECLARATION Please tick box if appropriate

I am UK taxpayer, and I want the Salvatorians, to treat all donations I make from the date of this declaration until I notify you otherwise, as Gift Aid Donations*

You must pay an amount of Income Tax at least equal to the tax that the charity reclaims on your donations in the tax year (currently 25p for each £1 you give). Please remember to inform the Salvatorians of any changes in your tax status.

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SALVATORIAN
BRITISH PRO-PROVINCE

APPEALS IN THIS ISSUE

Students on priestly formation

A young growing University in Africa, JUCO

Work of evangelisation

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