

SMbulletin

Friday, 9 April 2021

A NEW GENERAL ASSISTANT



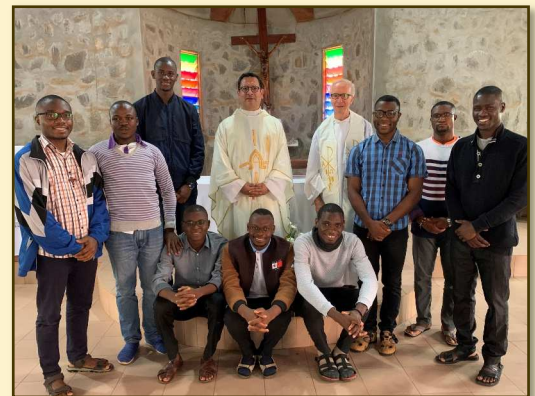
Frs Christian and Albert

The Superior General, with the advice of his Council, and after consultation with all the Major Superiors in the Society, has appointed Fr Christian Abongbung, of the District of Africa, as the new Assistant General on the General Council. He will continue as Rector of our seminary in Cameroon and also participate in General Council meetings from Yaoundé unless his actual presence is required in Rome, or elsewhere, from time to time. Christian undertook much of his seminary formation in Oceania. Later he studied at the Gregorian University in Rome. He has worked in pastoral ministry, both in Cameroon and in Senegal - especially in our shelter for street children in Dakar.

When the Superior General appointed Fr. Albert Kabala as an Assistant General it was hoped that he could hold both the positions of an Assistant General and of the Major Superior of Africa simultaneously. It is now clear that the Vatican will not grant the dispensation required for this. In order for Fr. Albert to be eligible for a second term as Major Superior in Africa he has needed to resign from the Council. The Superior General welcomed Fr. Christian to the team and thanked Fr. Albert for his outstanding service to the Council and to the whole Society.

VISITATION OF THE FORMATION HOUSES IN YAOUNDE

Fr Juan Carlos Piña visited the two formation houses in Yaoundé, Cameroon, during Easter. At the moment there are 12 pre-novitiate students at Saint Peter Chanel Nkolbisson who are studying Philosophy with the formation team of Frs Christian Abongbung, Martin Simna and René Godard. In the temporary Cerdon novitiate house there are currently two novitiates taking place with 9 novices from different African nations guided by Fr. Raymond Pelletier as Novice Master Fr. Constant Amoussouga as Socius (see picture). The first group of 4 novices will finish their novitiate in June, while the second group of 5 novices will finish in January 2022. These two exceptional novitiate programs were begun because the international novitiate in the Philippines has now been temporarily closed on account of border restrictions due to Covid-19.



LET US PRAY THAT OUR DECEASED CONFRERES MAY REST IN PEACE

P. John Hand

Europe (Ireland)

26.12.1952—16.03.2021

P. Peter Blanchard

United States of America

19.04.1940—17.03.2021

P. Helmut Funke

Europe (Deutschland)

26.12.1942—25.03.2021