



### SPONTANEITY



"Maria Boulding, in her book on failure, tells us that, if we did not have the possibility of rejecting God and what God offers, the enjoyment in life would disappear. Spontaneity is thus essential. As much as we would like to ensure that we are completely in control, alas (or hooray), we never will be. To the extent that we lose spontaneity, to that extent our actions become a formality unable to bring others to life."

"The wind blows where it wills (cf. John 3). No one can predict how or where the Spirit of God will act. And we also read in the gospels that the words will be given us when we need them. This is not to say that we are to throw away all responsibility for our lives, but that we are to be flexible enough to allow God to surprise us and delight us and thus keep us alive. We do not have to plan every detail ahead of time. If we do, we will keep God out of our lives."

**Tim Lockwood** from "My Tongue Will Sing Your Praises", p. 16

### NEWS FROM WEST AFRICA - EBOLA UPDATE

#### NUMBER OF DEATHS ARE MASSIVELY UNDERESTIMATED SAYS W.H.O.

The magnitude of West Africa's Ebola outbreak has been underestimated, the World Health Organization (WHO) said, warning that unknown numbers of people were dying in "shadow zones" unrecorded by medical authorities. In a detailed assessment of the true extent of the crisis, the WHO described a bleak situation in which "invisible caseloads of patients are not being detected by the surveillance system".

Families are hiding infected loved ones, on the assumption that, because Ebola has no cure, it would be better for them to die at home rather than in hospital. However, effective treatment can improve chances of survival – a message that health authorities have been struggling to communicate to increasingly fearful populations. The World Health Organization has drawn up a draft strategy plan to combat Ebola in West Africa over the next six to nine months, implying that it does not expect to halt the epidemic this year.

WHO has faced criticism, including from medical charity *Médecins sans frontières* (Doctors without Borders), that it has done too little too late to fight the disease. *Doctors Without Borders* who have been working for years with Ebola victims, has not lost any of its doctors to the virus.





## ———— TST APPOINTMENT ————

We received the announcement from the Congregation Leadership Team (CLT) on the appointment of Br David Gibson as the sixth member of the TST to take the vacancy left by Br Chris Meehl. Special welcome to David as our “neighbor”, and many congratulations for the appointment.



From L-R Declan Power, Donal Kirk, Sunil Britto, David Gibson, Francis Hall and Ruwan Rebello

Pictured here is the complete team of TST. We wish them well and promise them our prayerful support as they move forward the agenda of our Congregation – (Our Way Into the Future).

## ———— VISITORS IN THE DISTRICT ————



Brigit Mathew and Michael Godfrey

We welcome the PRT – Michael Godfrey and Brigit Mathew as they visit communities and engage us with the Chapter message. They will be with us for a bit over two weeks. Michael and Brigit will also facilitate the Cluster day scheduled for September 20, before they return to Lusaka on September 26. We thank

Michael and Brigit in their readiness to help us live the

Chapter calls and directions.





Claire Coad

Special welcome to Claire Coad, a teacher from Australia. Claire will be volunteering at Ruben Centre for about one month. We wish her a pleasant stay with us and hope that the experience at Ruben Centre will be enriching for her and the Ruben community she will be working with.

Pictured here is the dinner at South C to welcome Claire, Michael and Brigit to the District, with Frank O'Shea as an invited guest.



### ———— POSITIVE DISCIPLINE WORKSHOP AT BROTHER BEAUSANG ————



Staff and Pastoral Care Team of BBCEC

On 1<sup>st</sup> September 2014, all teaching staff together with the Pastoral Care Team at Brother Beausang Catholic Education Centre attended a workshop on Positive Discipline, which was organized by Spec Consultants. Br. Amandi Mboya, who is currently the District Child Protection Officer, was also present.

Among many benefits acquired, participants had an opportunity to discuss regular indiscipline patterns that they encountered among learners and how best they dealt with them. It was fascinating to hear how positive ways of disciplining learners could yield love, care, high academic performance, good relationships and sustainable behavioral outcomes. The negative ways, on the other hand, resulted in creating fear, anxiety, enmity, temporal behavioural outcomes, and poor





academic performance. Though the workshop was busy and demanding, all participants were happy in the end and hoped to adopt the positive ways of disciplining learners. It was worth attending.

**Simon Kaswahili**

### ———— PATRONS RETREAT AND PILGRIMAGE TO NAMUGONGO SHRINE UGANDA ————



*St. Charles Lwanga being barbecued*



*Grotto of Mary*



*Uganda martyrs shrine*



*St. Charles Lwanga being barbecued*



*Lubaga Cathedral in Uganda*



*Names of Uganda martyrs*

Every year the patrons of the young Christian Students in the Catholic Diocese of Eldoret go on a five day retreat and pilgrimage to a place of their choice. This retreat is organized and paid for by the youth office and the hoist school of the Y.C.S patron in the Diocese. The purpose of the retreat is to reflect on how we as patrons' minister to the young high

school and college students entrusted to our care. It is also a time to evaluate the past year and plan for the following year activities for the youth. The patrons usually spend two days of retreat and three days of pilgrimage. The theme of this year's retreat was drawn from Mat.16: 13-20 and LK. 5: 1-11. Forty-five teachers from various schools in this Diocese embarked on the journey to Uganda where they had a retreat and a pilgrimage to Namugongo Martyrs shrine. This is a Martyrdom site where twenty six young boys both Catholics and Anglicans were mutilated, barbecued and killed for rejecting the executioners' persuasion to renounce their faith in Jesus Christ. This execution took place on June 3<sup>rd</sup> 1886, on the orders of Kabaka Mwanga, the then King of the Buganda. The Pilgrimage were able to visit other places of interest such as Lubaga Cathedral, Foyers of Charity, a community of lay consecrated Catholics who emulate the life of the early church Acts 21:42-47. The Baha'I house of worship whose main teaching include the oneness of God, Religion and Humanity. We also visited the royal palace where the Kabaka (the king of Buganda kingdom) lives and the source of River Nile. I was thrilled and energized by the whole encounter without forgetting the rich history of the first African saints in the very holy land where they lived and died for their faith. It was a moment to ponder and experience the mystery we call God. Below are some pictures from the shrine.

**Geoffrey Kithinji**





## COMING ATTRACTIONS – SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

September 08	Amandi Mboya (South C)
12	Bill Dowling (Sinon)
14	Philip Ombucha (2 <sup>nd</sup> year novice – Tamale)
18	Cornel Mwiru (Embulbul)
	Silverio Wafula (Eldoret)
24	Frank O’Shea (Balozi)
	George Massay (South C)
25	Pascal Kituku (Sinon)
29	Nicodemus Okuku (Eldoret)

## CALENDAR

Sept. 7-26	PRT visit to East Africa
Sept. 20	Cluster Day in Nairobi (Saturday 9 am to 5 pm)
Sept. 28 – Oct. 1	ERMEA gathering, Mary Ward Centre
Oct. 10 – 12	Annually Professed Weekend
Oct. 30 – 31	Formation Committee Meeting - Nairobi
Oct. 31 – Nov. 1	Community Leaders Meeting (Friday supper and Saturday)
Nov. 29	First Profession (Tamale)
Dec. 6	Reception and missioning for newly professed (Nairobi)
Dec. 12 - 15	District Assembly
Dec. 16-18	DLT review and planning days

Many thanks

George Massay

