



August 25, 2014

Weekly Reflection



Although we are 14 years into the new century, our questions and concerns may not have changed much...

THE CENTURY'S DECLINE

by Wislawa Szymborska
(from *View with a Grain of Sand*, 1995)

Our 20th century was going
to improve
on the others.
It will never prove it now,
now that its years are numbered,
its gait is shaky,
its breath is short.

Too many things have happened
that weren't supposed to happen,
and what was supposed to come
about has not...

God was finally going to believe
in a man both good and strong,
but good and strong are still
two different men.

"How should we live" someone
asked me in a letter.
I had meant to ask him
the same question.

Again, and as ever,
as may be seen above,
the most pressing questions
are naive ones.





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SPREADING THE GOOD NEWS

The Editor has now concluded his Australian visit. As far as we know, Fred has kept him out of serious trouble. We can see in the photos a sample of their work – sharing the story of the Brothers' life and mission in Africa with Australians, in this case those in the island state of Tasmania.



George addresses students at St. Patrick's College, Launceston. They seem to be enjoying it!



On the left is Bert McGregor, an ex-Brother who was the first Christian Brother in east Africa (Tanzania in 1984). The more senior African Brothers will remember former Vocations Director, Br. Sean McManus (r.). Who's the guy in the middle?

Below we see senior students of St Patrick's College, Launceston, at the end of their 24 hour *Lap It Up*, a fundraising event in solidarity with East Africa. George is in the centre with Principal, Mr. Simon Cobiac and Br. Sean McManus (in red). Where did Fred get to? Maybe he had the camera?





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DAUGHTERS OF MARY AT MANNYA

On Sunday 17 August about 5,000 parishioners of St. Luke's, Mannya, Uganda, gathered to welcome three Daughters of Mary (a Ugandan Congregation founded by the Missionaries of Africa) and to celebrate the blessing of their new convent, which is funded by St. Bernard's parish, Belmont, Australia. Russell Peters spoke on behalf of St. Bernard's (his Australian Parish) and of Fr Peter Foley, St. Bernard's PP Emeritus.



The occasion marked 10 years since Russell first visited Mannya with Barry Callan, Pascal Kituku and Cornel Mwiru. Pictured are the Sisters, the Bishop of Masaka and the three priests of the 40,000 strong Parish. Third from the right is Fr Emmanuel who is currently visiting Geelong, courtesy of St. Joseph's College.

Russell Peters





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VISITORS FROM AUSTRALIA

Not all the tourist traffic is going towards Australia. Last week we welcomed a visit from Anthony Ryan (on the right of the photo), the Executive Director of the Edmund Rice Foundation Australia (ERFA), who is well known to many of us. He was preparing the way for the next Gone Fishing, the immersion experience he has developed for business and professional leaders from Australia. This will be held in early October.

Also staying at South C was John Kain (on the left), an old boy of Rostrevor College in Adelaide, who has established his own foundation which has projects in Uganda. He was interested to see the ministries of the Brothers in Nairobi and to learn of the work of ERFA. There is the possibility of collaboration between ERFA and the Kain Foundation. John was surprised and delighted to meet his old teacher from Rostrevor, Br. Dean McGlaughlin, who was working with the TST just a few streets away in South C.



CORRECTION

In last week's newsletter there was mention of Julias Oluoch beginning his retreat last Friday. In fact he began his 30 Day Retreat the Friday before, August 15, so he is now into the second week of this journey. Let us continue to remember him and accompany him with our prayerful support.





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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

COMING ATTRACTIONS – SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

September	08	Amandi Mboya (South C)
	12	Bill Dowling (Sinon)
	14	Philip Ombucha (2 nd 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)

