

Congregation of Christian Brothers

West Africa District

(GHANA, THE GAMBIA, LIBERIA AND SIERRA LEONE)

Wan Pot News



Monthly District News Publication

June 2012.



ECO-SPIRITUALITY SMALL, SMALL
Some Quotes from Thomas Berry on Christian Cosmology

“As Christians, the question of human-Earth relations seems outside our social concern. So overwhelming are our religious and social concerns that we fail to recognize that both our social and our religious well-being largely depend on the well-being of Earth, which provides sustenance for our physical, imaginative and emotional as well as our religious well-being. To understand planet Earth and our intimate relationship with it, we need to know the great story of Earth and of the universe that brought it and ourselves into being”
(The Christian Future and the Fate of the Earth p. 27)

The human is by definition that being in whom the universe reflects on and celebrates itself in conscious self-awareness. (The Christian Future and the Fate of the Earth p. 30)

“Human Beings can only be understood through tracing his/her rise through physics, chemistry, biology, and geology. In other words, the human being is a cosmic phenomenon, not primarily an aesthetic, moral, or religious one”
(The Christian Future and the Fate of the Earth p. 30)

WEST AFRICA DISTRICT NEWS

WAN POT

EDITORIAL NOTE

Warm greetings to our esteemed readers and welcome to our June, 2012 issue of the West Africa District News – Wan Pot; our sixth edition. A lot of developments continue to unfold within our district and we are delighted to inform the wider Edmund Rice family across the globe. As a team (editorial), we strongly believe in making local happenings from communities, project sites and the ERN within our district, congregational news and hence we strive to give them the international flavour they deserve.



The 250th birthday anniversary of our founder Blessed. Edmund Rice was celebrated in a grand style in different parts of the District. In Sierra Leone, it was a week long celebration with radio panel discussions on the life and work of Edmund, and the present work of the brothers in West Africa. Makeni, Freetown and Bo witnessed the panel discussions. This was followed by a live TV coverage and discussion by Br. Chris Teh, Br. Pious Conteh and Mrs. Gloria Bayoh (a board member of our projects). The climax of the celebration saw all the Brothers within the country converged at the St. Edwards Quasi Parish, Kingtom in Freetown. The liturgical ceremony was graced by His Grace Archbishop Edward Tamba Charles (chief celebrant), archbishop of Freetown, religious, priests, ERN members, parishioners, friends and other well wishers. It was a true of reunion of friends who had not seen each other for a while; the atmosphere was filled with love, joy and peace.



Archbishop Edward T. Charles celebrating Mass

Br. Christopher Teh in his reflection during the mass, spoke terrifically on the life and works of Blessed. Edmund Rice. He pointed out some of the significant events that brought Edmund face to face with Jesus of Nazareth and obviously with the mystery call God. He expanded on the under-mentioned headings

- ❖ The tragedy that changed Edmund's life
- ❖ His contact with spiritual persons
- ❖ Personal prayer and reflection
- ❖ How Edmund defied popular notions
- ❖ His trials and suffering and
- ❖ His death



Br. Christopher Teh giving his reflection on the celebration.

In the hall after the mass, Br. Chris presented a spectacular slide show depicting the life history of Edmund, as a way of summing up his reflection.

Grateful thanks to all who worked their fingers to the bone to ensure the success of the programme. Especially, Brs. Pious Conteh and Albert Gomez who were on the organizing

committee and all who made their valid contributions-the readers, choir, and all those who played diverse roles during and after the liturgy. Special thanks to the refreshment team and to all the brothers who travelled from their respective ministry sites, leaving behind their busy schedules to grace the occasion, “wu na tenki.”

IN THIS ISSUE

- District appoints four brothers to form the Personal Growth Programme team
- Compliment from Brother Patrick Sean Moffett
- People are often lonely because they build walls instead of bridges
- Ministry experience for Br. Novices in Lusaka
- Communities in Brief
- St. Ambrose Corner
- Upcoming Events
- Birthdays and Prayer Requests
- Thank You Message
- Community of the Month Competition

NOVICES – TAMALE AND GREEN POINT

We wish you men all the best as you draw closer and closer to a very crucial stage of initiate formation – preparing for first vows. We pray for every blessing and grace on you from the mystery we call God. You can rely on our moral and spiritual support on every step of the way.

NOVICES – LUSAKA

Good news all the way men, make us proud; you are always in our prayers. Enjoy the Mark’s gospel lessons that you are having with Br. Richard; that should equip you well for the task that lies ahead. Thanks for your contribution to our June issue, we hope to see more of those contributions coming in. Special thanks to Joseph Gomeh, who communicates often.

Br. TITUS KALLON

On behalf of the district and of our humble selves in the editorial team, we wish to convey a big thank you message onto you, for the excellent work done at the ISC novitiate. As the adage states-Everything good or bad thing must come to an end; in this case, good. It’s time to move on, time to return to your humble beginnings and time to give back to your society and people. We wish you every grace and blessing as you close that chapter of your life and start a fresh one among your very own (people). SHALOM BROTHER!!!

Br. VICTOR ALPHA

Thanks for investing so much in your studies; we can’t wait to have you back in the district. How we wish you could be sharing your experiences with us by contributing to Wan Pot, it’s never late yet. Keep up the good work.

Brother Patrick Sean Moffett, CFC, Ph.D. - USA

Please extend to all involved in producing WAN POT. From its first appearance a couple of decades ago it has been on my must read list. I always delight in hearing news of the men I had the privilege of meeting in the 80’s and 90’s. WAN POT keeps getting better and better reflecting the many ways the Spirit is working through the Brothers and the Network building a better tomorrow.

Every blessing, Sean



DISTRICT PERSONAL GROWTH PROGRAMME



(l-r) Brs. John Holden, Charles Belmoh, Andrew Koroma, Martin Vamboi

Brothers Charles Belmoh, Martin Vamboi and Andrew Koroma have recently been appointed by the District, in consultation with John Holden, to work as a team with him in the whole area of the personal and spiritual growth of Brothers of the District. The Team held its first meeting at Bo Formation House on Saturday, June 23 and has set aside August 25 for a full-day meeting to continue planning events for the remainder of this year, including the AP Workshop set for September 6, 7, 8 in Kenema. Thank you to Charles, Martin and Andrew for agreeing to take on this initiative in the District and for leading the way for others to follow.

Ensuring Continuity in the District: Their appointment is an important first step in ensuring continuity within the District in this vital area of the continuing formation of Brothers. No longer can we rely on ex-patriot Brothers to ensure continuity. We must seize the opportunity now, (and IT IS INDEED an opportunity!), to equip many more of our local Brothers with degrees/diplomas in such areas as pastoral counseling, spirituality, scripture studies, Islamic studies, retreat-giving & spiritual direction, youth/adult ministry, psycho-sexual development, liturgy, the new cosmology/eco-spirituality etc., not only to

serve our own District needs for years to come but also the needs of our local Church in Sierra Leone. We just cannot put this off any longer.

The dream: The dream is to eventually have a team of two or three of our own local Christian Brothers, along with possibly a Sister and/or Priest or Lay Person, as full-time team members of our Retreat and Conference Centre in Hamilton. There is no such Retreat Centre in the country at present that has such a team attached to it to offer private and group retreats, workshops, or youth/adult ministry programs throughout the year. The team would also be available of course to move out into schools and communities to work with brothers, school faculties, and students. What a gift the Brothers would make to our local Church by having such a Centre not to mention the money it would save our District in renting other Centres for workshops, assemblies and retreats! It is encouraging seeing the renovations now taking place in Hamilton and the new meeting hall now under construction. Please God those much needed rooms will be built sooner than later for adequate large group accommodation.

An Invitation: Here is an invitation and a question to our young and not so young Brothers in the District: Who out there is ready to pursue studies in these important areas to fulfill this dream? I know interest is there. What's needed now is nothing less than a deep desire to move it forward and plenty of passion and commitment to our way of life as Christian Brothers. Think about it, talk about it, and talk to leadership and to myself! Let's make a real difference as Christian Brothers in this whole area of spirituality and ensure a bright and viable future for our District, for our Province and indeed for the local Church in this country.
John Holden

**THE GIFT OF WISDOM SHARED
– Br. CHARLES BELMOH**

PEOPLE ARE OFTEN LONELY BECAUSE THEY BUILD WALLS INSTEAD OF BRIDGES

I have lived in many countries around the world, but wherever I find myself I try to construct the bridge of friendship by going out of my way to meet people. If you live within yourself you make a small bundle and the world by-passes you. There is a wealth of goodwill and friendship among people, and if you go among them sooner or later you will reap the dividend of fellowship. It is easier to walk on a bridge than to climb over a wall. It is selfish to live within yourself and foolish to blame others for your loneliness.

Sometimes the hardest thing to do is to know oneself, to know that you are unfriendly, to know that your brash manner keeps people away from you. There are many ways you can imprison yourself. There is no life worth living which does not give as much as it could give and who will receive what you have to give behind your walls. Go out and meet people, there may be others like yourself; break the walls of exclusiveness, shyness or conceit. Otherwise, you will find the world as a wilderness. Do things and you will never be lonely.

NOVICE BROTHER JOSEPH GOMEH – LUSAKA

Here at the ISC Novitiate in Lusaka, we have started ministry one month ago. We all go to different places and minister under different circumstances where we are needed. I do ministry at the Our Lady Hospice in Kalingalinga on Wednesdays, together with two of my brothers (Melvin and Andrew). I consider the whole process to be quite exposing and educating, nevertheless, sometimes very challenging. The Hospice is for people infected with HIV/AIDS and other terminal diseases.

Every Wednesday I spend four hours in the Hospice helping out with some duties delegated to me by the nurses and sharing different experiences with some of the residents who are abandoned by their family members and apparently by society too. Every single moment I spend helping out for those four hours, is appreciated by them. Their appreciation and gratitude make difference in my life and helps me reflect more on my vocation.

COMMUNITIES IN BRIEF

TENGBEH TOWN COMMUNITY

Our community continues to experience comings and goings. We hosted a number of brothers who came to Freetown to attend the ER 250th anniversary. Br. John Holden stayed back after the celebrations for a briefing with the DLT with regards to his ministry as PGP coordinator. Final arrangement for the formation of the new PGP team was done during this meeting.

Br. Chris Teh took a round tour to visit his family in Tombodu, Kono District, and to witness the 40th day anniversary of his late uncle who passed away when he was away in Australia. Chris also visited and spent time with Yengema community, Blama community, Formation community and the ERN in Bo.

Br. Ben Kamara continues his work as manager of the pastoral centre. Ben is quite happy with this ministry. He is also engaged with catechetics work in St. Anthony's Parish.

Albert Gomez now teaches in St. Joseph's Secondary School, Brookfields. He teaches Geography and Government to the senior classes.

Noel Bradshaw is at home in Ireland for a well earned home leave. We hope he a good time with his family and friends.

Augustine Williams has visited the Emmanuel Marrah Community and Formation house to check on their finances and book keeping. He is also following up and signing contracts with the contractors for the construction the new building at Emmanuel Marrah Community and Tengbeh Town.

BLAMA COMMUNITY

BR. LEO KAMARA

For our Blama community, prayer at communal level or days recollection are essentially a moments of retiring and resting as we often gather around the Divine Master and continue to discover His plans for the existential needs of our souls. Each one carries a new message that can only be decoded when we ask our Divine Superior. We need the constant support of community prayer and fraternal accompaniment on our journey to growth. Blama Community prayer is centered and revolves much around the wonderful experiences in pastoral ministry, which enters very much into our communal sharing and scriptural reflections. There is time for reflection on the various accounts of our experiences in ministry and this turns out to be a real blessing. These experiences help me personally as a Brother to learn how to become compassionate and self-giving and all these help to nourish my holistic growth. One thing that is central in our communal prayer is meditation and sharing personal experiences with the Lord. Jesus speaks to us at every changing moment; He follows our events, our breakthroughs, our challenges and dictates our general bearing for a successful story at the final banquet feast. The Lord so understands that he speaks and construes the language of all especially fallen

souls. At Prayer, Mass, Ministry places, Recreational Grounds, in bed, the Lord waits for an inner conversation that strengthens the soul in a world full of trickery and vain glory that empowers only the material self.



Brs. Leo, Emmanuel, Scott, Andrew and Pascal at prayer

Thanks to God for the gift of silence. We have come to realize that the gift of silence, which gives the opportunity to meditate, ponder and reflect on each brother's potential, talents, strengths, abilities, drawbacks and experience, are shared and directed to the benefit of each other. It is in the spirit of silence and recollection that most of the time one discovers the moments he/she has failed God and others. This helps me to blame others less and cease nagging and invites the individual to recognize his folly and mortal emptiness before the Divine potter. In silence one is armed to examine his/her conscience. When one is in silence, prayers are offered from the heart and not merely lip services. In silence, the Lord speaks to everyone who dares to listen. His words come to us in the form of good ideas, desire for a holy life, good intensions, good plans and resolutions that result in spiritual dividends.

Pretty golden and immeasurable a benefit, when the Divine master dines with your Soul. Many fallen souls have found respite in this option, and have been transformed into saints

that now stand in the presence of the Divine Superior. Sts. Augustine, Bernard, Theresa, Bonaventure, Blessed Edmund Rice and a host of others rose from insignificant thresholds to the commune of holy ones through the grades of silent conversation with the Lord.

In earnest, I urge all Brothers and people of good will to ask the Lord for His agenda for them, in the noise of silence. The Master waits you today; tomorrow and always. When do you intend to begin this great journey into the unknown?

OTHER COMMUNITY EVENTS

It is my responsibility as a correspondent of the Blama community to update you on recent happenings. The Brothers are busy with their various ministries. The secondary school finished their promotional examinations and Brs. Emmanuel and Leo are now busy marking the scripts; while Brs Pascal and Scott are conducting their examinations. Br. Andrew, a student at the Eastern Polytechnic is fast approaching the final year of his studies for a Bachelor of Education Degree in Community Development studies. Besides his commitment and busy studies, Br. Andrew has created one hour personal ministry at the Kenema Government Hospital where he goes every Thursday afternoon to interact and pray with the sick. His presence is meaningful to them especially at a time when they need someone they can talk to and confide in. He asserts, there is enormous joy in visiting and praying with the sick.

A voice from the agricultural side of the community holds that one of the pigs delivered three piglets on the 19th June. This swells the piggery to a total of 47. The husbandry is booming. 'Well done, thou good and faithful

servants.' We are proud of the ministers in the husbandry.

EMMANUEL MARRAH COMMUNITY, BO

Br. Augustine Kamara

Greetings from the students' community house where everyone now is busy compiling notes, doing assignments and studying hard as second semester exams are just around the corner. We are very much blessed with the constant presence of electricity as it aids us in our studies. The community leader has done all what it takes to see to it that, we have a three face meter that supplies constant electricity in the house at the moment. As you know students cannot go without electricity supply and also the PGP man Br John who needs to do his personal growth program stuff. Though the power is sometime not that strong but we are happy that we have it always.

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION- The community joined Br Anthony to say thanks to God for adding another significant year to his life and we joyfully celebrated with him. Making his birthday comment, Br Anthony reiterated that, he is always grateful to the community for their continued support and concern they always extend to him in time of joy, sorry and the like. He further maintained that such spirit should be our hard and fast guide.

EUCCHARISTIC CELEBRATION- The community is blessed with the help of Fr. Lappaih assistant parish priest at St Pius church who comes down twice a month to celebrate Mass with us. We want to humbly thank Fr. Lappaih for offering his valuable time in helping us to be in communion with our God. Our community *Breaking of Bread* which is also done twice in a month is helping us to live 'eucharistically'. The community also had a day of recollection on the

30th of June, 2012 and Brs. John and Michael were in charge.

AGRICULTURE- In a bid to join government strive of promoting agriculture that will see Sierra Leonean go to bed without empty stomach, the community at the moment has embarked on serious agricultural activities that will in the coming months able to supply our community and sister communities around. We will be having a lot to offer ranging from vegetables, rice, cassava and the like. So I entreat you to stay awake and in full expectation.

COMMUNITY VEHICLE- Our community vehicle has been thoroughly repaired and is road worthy now. We want to thank our mechanic Ambrose who has always been supportive to us.

FINAL EXAMS- Br Paul S. Yallah will be writing his final exams starting from 3rd July and finishes on the 18th of the same month. We join Br Paul in prayer for a successful completion of his external examination. Keep well and focused Brother as the community is behind you and will give you all the support you need.

VISIT- The community was very much glad to have Br Patrick Nuanah from Liberia who came to see the District Leadership Team but made a stop in our community. Thank you Br Patrick for your kind thought and the quality time you spent with us. I must rush to say the community misses you and we will love to have you again.

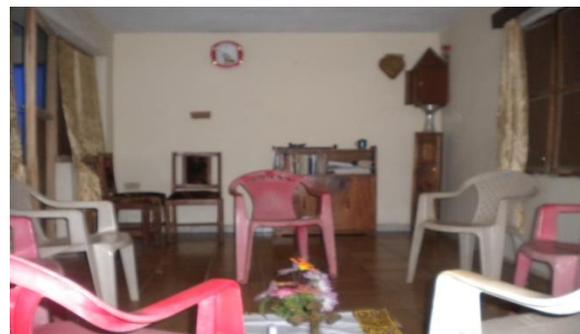
CALABA TOWN COMMUNITY

CTC continues to flourish in all aspects; taking to cognizance ministry, prayer and community living.

Brothers teaching at the academy are currently busy marking promotional examination scripts and getting their grades set for onward

submission to the examinations office. Br. John E. Banya was part of the supervision team at Huntingdom Secondary school for BECE, on behalf of St. Ambrose Academy. Schools across the country are expected to close down on the 13th July, 2012. The Brothers in consultation with the other staff members (lay people) are planning end of year activities for the pupils.

The community chapel has been moved to the ground flood and was consecrated by Rev. Fr. Damba on the 29th June, 2012. This was done in the bid to provide more accommodation for visitors. Thanks to Br. Paul Luseni (CL) for spearheading the whole process.



The newly relocated CTC chapel

Br. John Holden visited our community for two nights after the 250th anniversary celebration; we enjoyed his company a great deal and in his capacity as PGP coordinator, his presence was a breath of fresh spiritual air. And thanks to him also for helping some brothers reach their spiritual directors. We hope to have you back sooner or later.

The community also recently celebrated the birthdays of Brs. Peter and Benjamin respectively. Both celebrations attracted brothers from other communities, relatives, friends and well wishers. As usual, there were prayer sessions and the normal business of eating and drinking followed. We wish both celebrants good health, God's blessing and grace and their families too.



Brs. Peter and Benjie receiving blessing on the respective birthdays

HAMILTON COMMUNITY

Br. Benjamin and I had the opportunity to join the Hamilton community members for Morning Prayer a couple of days ago. The prayer was well organized, the atmosphere conducive – the morning sea breeze blowing gently, the roaring of the sea, the sound of the birds and the rising sun that was shedding its moderate light into the glassy chapel; it was awesome. Thanks to Br. Joseph Abdulia for his warm hospitality (he let us in as early as 6:04am) and for the wonderful reflection he led that morning.

The house was looking nice; in its new coat of paint and zinc, and the sitting room well organized as early as 6:04am. Probably it was done the night before. One of the brothers whispered in my ear “we now also enjoy electricity like any other CB community in the district.”

All the brothers in the community seem to be in good form. On the 16th June, the three annually professed brothers organized some activities for the kids at Shengbe Pieh primary school where they minister. They are also planning some other activities in the coming weeks for the youth. They also intend to invite the HIV/AIDS district coordinator”, and that obviously rang a bell in my mind.

Br. Frank still investing so much energy into his first musical album production which seems to be working out well for him; believe it or not, he shook the St. Edwards parish hall when he performed one of his songs – HAPPY BIRTHDAY

BLESSED EDMUD RICE. At this very moment, the song - “Konanie” (a creole word meaning – briefing) which happens to be the album title; is terrorizing the air waves of radio Maria, the Catholic mouth in the country. Keep up the hard work; we can’t wait to see you on the national stage with the massive stage lights over your head.



Br. Frank performing the Edmund Rice happy birthday song

YENGEMA COMMUNITY

In a telephone conversation with our correspondent in Yengema, he revealed that there is not much to write about for the month of June. But that notwithstanding, they still uphold the ideals of prayer, ministry and community living.

He also revealed that they are glad to announce to the entire district and the global Edmund Rice family that Br. Joseph Turay who was involved in a motorbike accident and spent a couple of months in hospital away from his community has returned to his Yengema Community and can now at least move around. Thanks to the Makeni Community for the role they played during his trying moment.

He also expressed that as the rains intensify, they have to stay indoors because the roads within Yengema town are full of pot-holes that are filled with muddy water. He however said that will help them spend more time marking their piles of promotional examination scripts,

compiling grades for onward submission and preparing report cards.

In a nutshell, he said that they are all keeping well and enjoying the warmth of each other.



Brs. Jojo, Pat. Salia and Jonathan - Missing Br. Joe Turay

MAKENI COMMUNITY

With just two brothers living the afro-mentioned community, the impact of their presence has been massive, in the local church and the local community in which they live.

Brs. Charles and Jeremiah are currently busy invigilating the Basic Education Certificate Examinations at St. Francis secondary school where they both minister and at the same time marking promotional examination scripts for onward submission to the exams office of the school. Their involvement in parish/church activities has been overwhelming, a parishioner revealed to me. To crown it all, the Dioceses of Makeni as a matter of fact has been benefiting tremendously from the wisdom of Br. Charles Belmoh in crucial matters, OH MY GOD; WHAT A GIFT WE ARE GIVING IN THIS DISTRICT!

What was quite fascinating for me was to discover how much they have invested in promoting the food security drive of the nation. I had the opportunity of walking in the woods surrounding the community house just when the sun was about to reveal its magnificent light. Before I could imagine, I found myself in a stretch of cassava plantation and on the other

side was a spread of a groundnut cultivated area displaying its green leaves and making a show of its yellow blossom. On the far end also were maize and coco yam gardens. In privilege conversation later in the morning, soon before I left, I came to realize that they have got another plot somewhere around Makeni which was also thriving; to confess the truth; I was blown away.

Congratulations brothers for the hard work. The Makeni community and other communities elsewhere have thrown out the challenge, what do we do with it? Do we embrace it as worthwhile or dismiss it as not important. Well, the decision is up to individual communities to make. We have done our part of the deal, by letting you know about these developments.

The Wan-Pot editorial team came to know all of this when I was down in Makeni two days ago for Spiritual Direction and spent the night in the brothers' community house. Brothers, I kindly beg that you ignore my ingratitude; I ought to have mentioned this earlier, however, never too late – thanks for your hospitality.

FORMATION COMMUNITY

We are glad to announce that the two postulants have arrived back in the community after their pastoral placement. Detail report of their experience in ministry will be posted in the next edition of Wanpot.

Br. Martin Vamboi has been appointed by the Bishop of Bo as one of the members of the Diocesan Educational Services. Part of their role is to advise the bishop and his council of the issues of governance of schools, appointment and other related issues.

During the Br. Martin was invited by Ladies Auxiliary to facilitate a retreat/recollection for them. He was later awarded a certificate of appreciation by the group during their thanksgiving celebration.

ST. AMBROSE CORNER

On behalf of the school I send greetings and blessings to all. I will not forget to also extend thanks and appreciation to our friends in and out of Sierra Leone. It is through the spirit of sharing that exist between us that has seen the school this far. It is not an easy task to pass on the culture of education to the young generation of our time. Besides the cost, information technology is another issue we (teachers, students and parents) grapple with. There is so much on the airwaves - TV, Mobile Phone, etc which need to be filtered before it enter into the classroom situation. I am saying all these because of the recent happenings during the past external examinations for senior secondary schools in Sierra Leone. Pupils were using their mobile phones to contact sources for answers to examination questions. Well as our late Brother Liguori Gillespie used to say "Bad news. Good news, who knows"

Now let me share this with you.

- All schools are supposed to close down for the long vacation on the 13th of July 2012. It is not clear when schools resume but our hope is before the second week in September 2012.
 - Our 7th and 8th grade students finished their promotional examination on the 22nd June. Teachers are now marking and compiling grades. Many thanks to the entire Saint Ambrose Academy staff for the hard work and dedication.
 - The BASIC EDUCATION CERTIFICATE EXAMINATIONS (B.E.C.E) started on Monday 25th June, 2012 and will end on the 5th July, 2012. Our 9th grade pupils formed part of the crowd that is sitting to this examination. Few staff members from our school are also acting in different capacities in conducting the said examinations in another school.
- The last Community Teachers Association (CTA) meeting for the academic year was held on the 20th of May, at 4p.m at the school hall. Many thanks to parents who were present at the meeting. Special thanks to Madam Pessima (Vice Chairperson CTA) for chairing the meeting that day.

BELOW IS A PICTURE OF THE LAST CTA



On be I thank the executive members of the CTA and all parents for your contributions during our previous meetings. We are looking forward to work with you next academic year.

- Visitors – We were blessed with the visit of teachers from St. Anselm College, England. Many thanks to Br. Pious (PMO) who made the visit possible. Br. John Holden (Personal Growth Program Coordinator -WAD) and Br. Andrew Turay (Headmaster Kanville – Tamale) also made a brief visit to the school.
- Donation – Few computers and assorted books were donated to Saint Ambrose Academy, Allen town, Freetown last month. The said items were donated by Saint Anselm College, England. On behalf of the school, I want to extend our thanks and appreciation to saint Anselm College.
- We want all to join us in prayers for a brighter future for the school- saint Ambrose Academy.
- Until then, I wish you God's favour in your undertakings; peace I leave with you.

UP COMING EVENTS

ANNUAL RETREATS 2012

As already announced, we have cancelled the December retreat given that the CLT will be meeting with Brothers of the District in Kenema December 2-6. To date, all brothers have since signed up for either of the two Directed Retreats planned back-to-back for this summer at the Pastoral Centre in Kenema. As some ERN members expressed a desire to make retreat with us, we have happily extended an invitation to any ERN member who wishes to do so, where they would be responsible for their food and accommodation costs only. There is but one place open for the first retreat but several available during the second retreat.

1st DIRECTED RETREAT

VENUE: Pastoral Centre, Kenema

DATES: July 27 – August 2, 2012

DIRECTORS: Br. Michael Godfrey CFC, Sr. Brigit Mathew PBVM, Sr. Anthonia Ezeibekwe MSHR, Br. John Holden, CFC.

The retreat begins with 7:00 p.m. supper on the evening of Friday, July 27 and concludes with breakfast on the morning of Thursday, August 2. Things to bring: Your Towel, Bible, Journal, Pen, and Umbrella and/or Rain Attire. Soap is provided at the Centre.

2nd DIRECTED RETREAT

VENUE: Pastoral Centre, Kenema

DATES: August 3 – August 9, 2012

DIRECTORS: Br. Michael Godfrey CFC, Sr. Brigit Mathew PBVM, Sr. Anthonia Ezeibekwe MSHR, Br. John Holden CFC

The retreat begins with 7:00 p.m. supper on the evening of Friday, August 3 and concludes with 8:00 a.m. breakfast on the morning of Thursday, August 9. Things to bring: Your Towel, Bible, Journal, Pen, and Umbrella and/or Rain Attire. Soap is provided at the Centre.

PGP LIBRARY BOOKS: Spiritual Reading Books from the PGP Library will be available for borrowing at the retreats. Brothers are asked to please return any outstanding books they have at that time.

ANNUALLY PROFESSED WORKSHOP

Our next AP Workshop will take place as planned on September 6, 7, and 8 at the Pastoral Centre in Kenema.

FOUNDER'S DAY CELEBRATIONS IN BO

An article entitled FAMILY ADDING VALUE ... RECLAIMING AN ASPECT OF EDMUND with accompanying photos, highlighting our recent Founder's Day celebrations in Bo, is presently on the Congregation website – check it out on www.edmundrice.net

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

Happy birthday wishes to all whose birthdays occur in the month of July. From the Wan Pot editorial team, we wish you all that you wish for yourselves.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please remember Lawrence Chaytor, brother-in-law of Br. John Holden, who passed away on June 23 in St. John's, Newfoundland after suffering a stroke a few days earlier. May he rest in peace! We also humbly ask that you continue to pray for Br. Joseph Turay, for full recovery.

THANK YOU!!!

We express our sincere thanks to all who contributed to our June issue and we encourage community members within the district to send in their nominations for the community of the month competition.

CONTRIBUTIONS

We continue to ask our valuable readers and contributors to send their contributions to Brs. Joseph Cyril Dauda Jr and Francis Salia George.

jdaudius@yahoo.com

francis.george29@yahoo.com

**COMMUNITY OF THE MONTH
COMPETITION RESULT FOR THE MONTH
OF JUNE, 2012**

FROM: THE WAN POT EDITORIAL TEAM

TO: ALL OUR READERS

*We are pleased to announce to all our readers that **MAKENI COMMUNITY** has been named as the community of the month - June, 2012.*