

**BROTHERS OF THE  
CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS**

PLEASE POST



**THE LWANGA DISTRICT  
OF AFRICA**



# 1. PROVINCIALATE

## 1.0. NEW APPOINTMENTS

	Name	New Community	Apostolate	Responsibility	Effective
1	Br. Antone Oloo	Nakuru	Mwangaza Center	Principal	January 1 <sup>st</sup> 2013
2	Br. James Thiongo	Rongai	Rongai Boys	Principal	January 1 <sup>st</sup> 2013
3	Br. Francis Njoroge	Marsabit	St. Paul's	Principal	January 1 <sup>st</sup> 2013
4	Br. Paul Anderson	Nakuru	Child Discovery	Director	August 1 <sup>st</sup> 2012
		Nakuru	Nakuru Cmty	Director	August 1 <sup>st</sup> 2013
5	Francis Ewesit	Nyeri	St. Mary's	Cmty Director	
6	Br. Joseph Nderi	Rongai	Rongai Boys	Teaching	September 6, 2012
7	Br. Taddele Negash	De La Salle Scholasticate	De La Salle Center	Director	January 1 <sup>st</sup> 2012
8	Br. Daniel Carlin	GMC	St. Joseph's Addis	Teaching	September 2012
9	Br. Augustine Ranchal	GMC Postulancy	Postulancy	Assistant	September 2012
			St. J.B. De La Salle	Teaching/Devel	September 2012
10	Br. Kassaye Antuan	CTC	Student	Student	September 2012
11	Br. Getachew Alemayehu	Bisirate Gebriel	Bisirte Gebriel	Cmty Director	August 20 <sup>th</sup> 2012
12	Br. Belayneh Medhanit	GMC Postulancy	St. Joseph's Addis	Principal	September 30, 2012
13	Br. Nuud Sium	Villagio	Student	Cmty Director	August 2012
14	Br. Weldetsion Ukbatensae	Scholasticate Asmara	Student	Assistant Dir.	August 2012
15	Br. Ghebrehiwet Eyasu	Asmara Novitiate	Student	Assistant Director	August 2012
16	Br. Peterdamain Irubor	Ondo	Ondo	Teaching/Bursar	September 2012
17	Br. Oscar	Marsabit	St. Paul	Teaching	May 2012

	Okoth				
18	Br. Michael Wafula	Nyeri	St. Mary's	Teaching	May 2012
19	Br. Dominic Kioko	Marsabit	St. Paul's	Teaching	May 2012
20	Br. Geoffrey Morara	Rongai	Rongai Boys	Teaching	May 2012
21	Br. Buzuneh Markos	Diredawa	Bisirate Gabriel	Teaching	May 2012
22	Br. Luckymaria Oloboh	Naka	Mount La Salle Naka	Teaching	May 2012
22	Br. Christopher Njenga	Nakuru	Mwangaza	Teaching	May 2012
23	Br. Boniface Wachira	De La Salle Center	Scholasticate	Student	May 2012
24	Br. Jamesmariay Menasseh	Abidjan/IvoryCoast	Scholasticate	Student	September 2012
		<b>Sector Coordinators</b>			
25	Br. Damian Ikor	Ondo	Ondo	Sector Coordinator	September 1 <sup>st</sup> 2012
26	Br. Belayneh Medhanit	GMC Postulancy	GMC	Sector Coordinator	September 1 <sup>st</sup> 2012
27	Br. Antone Oloo	Nakuru	Mwangaza	Sector Coordinator	January 1 <sup>st</sup> 2013
28	Br. Thomas Sheey	Discovery	Discovery	Sector Coordinator	January 1 <sup>st</sup> 2013

## 1.2. FROM FORMATION OFFICE

In June the Brothers of the Provincialate welcomed joyfully Brother Jorge and Brother Gabriel, General Councillors, to their Community. They spent a pleasant and interesting meeting together in sharing personal experiences and some reflections about the Institute.

The General Councillors took the opportunity to inform us about three major challenges that the Institute faces in today's world: 1°/ the Review of the Rule and its implementation, 2°/ the collaboration of Brothers and Lay Partners in the Lasallian Education Mission marked by a fraternal spirit of Association and 3°/ the perseverance of young Brothers, especially after their final vows.

The third challenge has really touched me as the District Formation Coordinator. It was a wake-up call that the Brothers even with final vows can have their crises, their doubts and their difficult moments in life that should be shared in trust and confidence in order to overcome them in a positive way. Do we have already created such trustworthy environment where we might be able to share with one another our positive

and less positive experiences, our convictions and doubts, our joy and disappointments, our hope and frustrations...?

Let us continue to join hands and to encourage one another positively that God's gift (charisma) might continue to be unfolded in each one's life.

During the last months our International Formation Houses in Nairobi have welcomed wholeheartedly Brothers from Rwanda (7 Brothers), from Burkina Faso (2 Brothers) and from Madagascar (1 Brother). We are grateful to one another for this enriching and stimulating experience of universal Brotherhood. We wish all the Student Brothers a successful, fulfilling and fruitful academic year 2012/13 in and outside of Nairobi.

### 1.3. THE SCHOLASTICATE

#### Reporting of the first years

De La Salle Scholasticate community received four new members. Brother Solomon from Ethiopia: who has just finished the Noviciate formation at the De La Salle Noviciate (Nairobi). Brother Jean Marie Vianney and Brother Jean Paul finished the Noviciate formation in the Noviciate “Notre Dame de Grâce” (Burkina Faso). They both come from Rwanda. Brother Rado from Madagascar has equally finished the Noviciate formation in Burkina Faso.

Brothers Jean Marie Vianney, Jean Paul and Rado are currently taking intensive English courses at Hekima Language Center, and thereafter they are expected to join CTIE in January after successful completion of their studies.

Brothers Solomon, Lambert, Jean de Dieu and Fabien both first year students at CTIE attended Tangaza College Orientation on 6<sup>th</sup>, August to 9<sup>th</sup> August.



(From left to right: Bros. Solomon, Jean Marie Vianney, Jean Paul and Rado). First year Scholastics.

#### CTIE:

#### **Start of classes for the new academic year 2012-2013**

On 13<sup>th</sup> August, Tangaza College officially opened for the new academic year. The Scholastic Brothers participated in the Eucharistic Liturgy of the Holy Spirit, which marked the opening of the new academic year. This also marked the beginning of classes for the first Semester at Christ the Teacher Institute for Education (CTIE).

Father Steven Payne, OCD, the newly appointed Principle of Tangaza College was the main celebrant. After the Mass, the classes officially began.

### **A new chaplain at De La Salle Centre**

On 17th August, the Scholasticate community received Father Kijuu as the new chaplain. Father Kijuu has replaced the long serving Father Michael who was transferred to a rural parish in Thika. Father Kijuu comes from Arusha Diocese in Tanzania and is currently studying Psychology and Counselling at the Catholic University of Eastern Africa (CUEA).

Karibu Sana Father!

### **De La Salle Centre garden**

The De La Salle Centre has once more created a new garden opposite the Rafiringa house .The garden supplies the community with maize and vegetable such as salad, onion, cabbage, tomatoes and carrot. This is part of the self sufficiency in line with the Lwanga District policy on self sufficiency.



Pictures from the Garden



## **2. NEWS FROM THE SECTORS**

### **2.0. SECTOR OF ERITREA**

#### **Sector Inspiring Retreat**

The retreat of the sector of Eritrea took place at the center of St. **Clara** sisters in Mendefera. It began on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> of July and ended on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> July 2012. The retreat was animated by Fr. Nguse of the Cistercian community. The renewal of vows took place on 14<sup>th</sup> July in Mendefera and the entire 9 young brothers had renewed their vows. The retreat was attended by 12 Brothers including Brother Negasi the sector coordinator.

At the last day Brothers visited Adi- Quala (Mr. Meles Zenawi's mother home town) which is 20 minute drive from Mendefera and immediately after the visit they had their lunch in the retreat center in Mendefera. And packed to their respective communities with a happy and inspired spirit.



Father Nguse sharing his reflections to Brothers in Mendefera.

#### **Novitiate (2012-2013)**

Our four postulants (Efrem, Merhawi, Filimon, and Teklesenbet) have started their novitiate programs in Keren, which is going to be changed to Asmara in the near future.

Meanwhile, the canonical year have officially started in Keren community in the presence of the sector coordinator Brother Negasi Gebreab, Brother Gebretnsae Gebrekrstos (novitiate director) and the community members as well.

For the past three years the novitiate was located in the compound of Keren community, but due to lack of professionals, it is now being changed to Asmara near the Brothers' residence in Villagio. For the purpose of teaching practice and other apostolic activities Keren is the most ideal place for the novices, but to get proper and

quality formation Asmara is better as compared to Keren.

The Novitiate community is also blessed with the joining of a new additional staff member, Brother Ghebrehiwet Eyasu. Brother is at the end of completing his First Degree studies in IRS-ORC Villagio.

We wish God's Blessings to Brother Ghebrehiwet and the Novices!

Finally, the novices will finish their canonical year in 20<sup>th</sup> August 2013. And after six months of apostolic service they will profess their first vows.



Left to right (Efrem Amine, Teklesenbet Gaym, Merhawi Berhe, and Filimon Mengstab)

### **Ldeta Mariam Natiity school Shinara**

Our students of Ldeta Mariyam Nativity School Shinara have made us proud this

year. 44 students took part in the grade eight Eritrean national examinations. . 100% or (44 students out of 44) of the total examined students in grade Eight National Examination have passed. This year students and teachers worked very hard to reclaim our glorious place nationwide and in region.

Our school slogan “success has to be earned and not yearned” paid back. All our students passed with satisfactory marks. So to all student of Nativity school class of 2012 I want to say congratulation and keep the fire burning and pass it to those who are following. Remember where ever you go a success has to be earned and not yearned.

### **St. Joseph shines ones more!**

In our previous article about St. Joseph's School, we have read how St. Joseph's School is being treasured as their only precious gem by thousands of young people who have been fortunate to be nurtured in it. Yes, this sentiment comes from the quality and holistic education that it provides s to its beneficiaries.

The National Examination of grade Eight and The Eritrean Secondary Level Certificate Examination (ESLCE) result of this year are the perfect manifestation of this

reality. 96% or (115 students out of 120) of the total examined students in grade Eight National Examination have passed. Not only have most of our students passed, but most of our students have scored very high score. For example, from the whole Eritrea only 250 students scored above ninety and *11* students of these are our students. All in all 45% of our students scored above 70%. Indeed this is a great achievement compared to the other schools.

St. Joseph's School has also stood Second Nation wise in the Eritrean Secondary Level Certificate Examination (ESLCE) of Grade 12. Yes, 82.2% of our total students have passed in ESLCE. Many of our students scored very high marks. Consequently, they have being placed in the best colleges such as college of Medicine and surgery, Engineering Colleges, Business and Economics and others. All these factors justify among the others to say that St. Joseph's school is shining as the only twinkling star in the country gradually. Its name is echoing throughout the country very rapidly.

Due to its high Standard educational, securing a place at St. Joseph's School is very difficult. The registration time is one of the most difficult times for the school

administration for the school cannot accommodate more than 1550 students. So, three quarter of those who seek admission at St. Joseph's School do not get place in the school.

So, as De La Salle Brothers, we are proud of the quality education we are giving and pledge to continue our commitment and meet the need of our young people who thirsty for holistic education in our School.

### **The Lasallian youth of Asmara**

The Lasallian youth choir in Asmara started in 2001. Since its inception, its activities are focused on prayer meeting, choir, service, Bible sharing, visiting the sick, the lay, organizing retreats to the youth and organizing spiritual theaters on different occasions. De Lassalle brothers under the leadership of Brother Gebreyesus Habte strongly supported the choir in order to strengthen their spiritual life and the values of the church as a whole.

The choir as its core spiritual theme focuses on the words recommended by St. John Baptist De LaSalle i.e. looking each and every activity of your life in the eyes of faith, so as to serve the community in a humble and genuine spirit.

The Lasallian youth choir major activities are: practicing spiritual songs twice a week, preparing spiritual theaters during Christmas, Easter and in the day of De Lassalle, visiting and sharing the words of God with the sick every Sunday afternoon, bible sharing among themselves (every Sunday morning right after the mass the choir share the word of God to encourage each other's journey) and they organize special monthly and annual retreats both for themselves and to the parish members as a whole.

After they attain the needed spiritual arms, they serve the laity with songs during Sunday mass, retreats and also during any other occasions where spiritual songs are in need.

## **2.1. SECTOR OF ETHIOPIA**

Fraternal Greetings and best wishes from the Sector of Ethiopia! We pray that everyone at the Lwanga District is doing quite well and enjoying your long break.

### **Summer School and Summer Break**

All the schools within the Sector are currently on their long term break. The long break gives a very good opportunity to the

schools to embark on some maintenance and renovation works. The Summer school was conducted just like the regular academic year with some meticulous and pragmatic systems in place. It is very much appreciated by the students especially those who come from other schools.

Best performing students in the summer school are selected to be enrolled in the regular academic year. All our schools have high demands in the specific areas they are located which makes the Brothers and Lay Associates work harder.

### **100% Pass in the Entrance Exam to the University**

The month of July announced the usual success of our students in all the schools. Once again, all the students, as we all expected, came out with flying colors in the Entrance Exams that leads them to their university studies. In all the schools, there is a 100% pass. The Sector of Ethiopia appreciates the hard work of its students and the solid dedications of its lay Lasallians. We now wait for National and State Exams' results.

### **Sector Coordinator Got Reelected**

Br Belayneh was reelected as a Sector Coordinator with the highest majority vote right in the first balloting. We now congratulate and wish him success as he begins his second term in the office. The vote has now proceeded to the election of two Council Members who will be part of the District Council.

### **Sector Retreat**

Beginning from the 26<sup>th</sup> of August, the Brothers in the Sector of Ethiopia will be gathering together for the Annual Retreat that will run up until September 1, 2012. This year, Fr. Turen a member of SJ and a close friend of the Brothers will animate the Annual Retreat. The Sector Retreat will be concluded with the renewal of vows and later with the election of New Members for the Sector Council.

### **Master's Graduation**

Br. Betre comes back to the sector in the month of August having finished his requirements to the Master's Degree. Betre studied educational administration at CUEA in Nairobi. The sector is most happy upon the great achievements of Br Betre. On the same note Br Kasseye moves to Nairobi to pursue his Master's education in

Management in Social Ministry, at Tangaza College. The Sector wishes Br Kasseye success in his studies!

### **A Brother Survives a Fatal Accident**

All the Brothers in the Sector of Ethiopia are so grateful and thankful to the Almighty God for having helped our Brother Aycheluhem survive a major accident. Br Ayche was on his way to the community after dropping volunteers at the airport when the accident happened around midnight. Some good Samaritans took Brother to the hospital right away which has become a cause for his survival. Ayche is now in perfect health and sustaining a little bit of injury.

### **Sad News**

It is rather with a heavy heart that the Sector announces the death of our Prime Minister, Meles Zenawi. Meles was ill for more than a month and was treated in Europe. The terrible news reached the ears of Ethiopians on Tuesday, August 21, 2012. Many still cannot believe that the Prime Minister is gone at this young age. He is portrayed as one of the greatest leaders in the history of Ethiopia. He had so many great ideas that were yet to be materialized-including making the Millennium Development, Nile

Dam a reality. Meles was also seen as a great icon of the continent of Africa. His body was received by millions of crowds in Addis Ababa and was escorted to the State house with a solemn procession. Many shouted saying, “A Hero never dies but will be remembered by his Blue Prints he left behind” The country is still mourning for the loss of a giant leader. The body of the former Prime Minister of Ethiopia will be lowered to the ground on September 9, 2012. He will be succeeded by the former Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Hailemariam Desalegne. We hope that the current Prime Minister will fully replace Melese Zenawi and takes the country to another level of prosperity and development as his predecessor dreamt to have taken it.

### **Meki Multi Purpose Hall is concluded**

The multi-purpose hall in Meki Catholic School has been fully concluded. It will start functioning in the next academic year in September. The Sector of Ethiopia is highly indebted to the donors who fully funded the project of multi-purpose hall which will also act as a very big library to the school.

### **New Building Works Start at BGS**

Bisrate Gabriel School will soon put up another wing-a ground plus one building.

The fund was sought from Misesan Cara, Ireland and the Catholic Bishops' Conference in Rome through Solidarity Office. The New Building is designed to reduce the number of students in the classroom and to ensure quality education. The ground breaking work is to be commenced in the month of August.

### **Child Protection, Administration and Development Workshops**

A seminar which was fully sponsored by Misesan Cara and De La Salle Solidarity Office of Rome was animated on Child Protection, Administration and Development for five days in the month of July at Ethiopian Catholic University in Addis Ababa. The workshop was very much appreciated by all the school administrators and teachers and office workers who took part in the seminar. The participants came from the different Catholic Schools found in the country.

Finally, the Sector wishes all the Brothers, Lay Lasallians and Lasallian Students God's choicest blessings upon the various ministries in which all of us are involved! May we be bearers and sign of peace, hope and love especially to the least, the last and the lost! Have a great time!

## **2.2. SECTOR OF NIGERIA**

### **Live Jesus in our hearts forever!**

The Sector of Nigeria is very quiet at the moment in terms of activities, as most of the Brothers are on home leave.

Perhaps the rigorous activities at end of the year 2011/2012 session must have been reason for the silence in the Sector.

In the month of July, Naka Community and Parish paid host to the Brothers, family members and friends of Br. James Mary Manasseh Uche in thanking for first Profession of Vows.

The evening of that same day, there was a Sector meeting of all the available Brothers, thanks to Br. Moses Abunya who made the suggestion on a theme, "Present Situation in the Sector and the way forward". It was a very successful meeting as all the Brothers made interventions and eventually came out with some recommendations on the way forward in the Sector.

This was also a time of sober reflection and frank talk which I find very useful.

A week later Br. Moses Abunya and Br. Godwin Biin returned to USA and Kenya.

Brother Peter Damian arrived in the Sector from Nairobi on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> August 2012 to

start Immersion programme and Industrial Attachment in one of the Banks in Nigeria.

As at this write-up, he has not been able to secure a place yet. We pray that soon, he will get over the anxiety.

Don Bosco Community also hosted Br. Lucky Maria Olobo for three days retreat before he renewed his Vows. Ondo Community members were at the evening Mass to support Brother Lucky Maria.

### **Ondo**

Ondo, being the nearest community to Lagos, is often blessed with the presence of Brothers in transit and other visitors to the Sector. Recently Brother Adesanmi Ologbenla Emmanuel was in the Community in transit from Lagos. Br. Lucky Maria was in transit as well to Lagos for some few days. Br. Wole Patrick Olabanjo visited in mid August as he was the son of the soil visiting family, friends and relations in Ondo. Presently Brother Philip is on holiday.

Br. Damian's brother, Christopher Ikor wedded with his wife on the 4<sup>th</sup> of August, 2012. The De La Salle Brothers were in great number during and after the Mass in Utonkon, Benue State of Nigeria.

Ondo Community hosted Ondo Diocesan pious group (Block Rosary Crusade) for some days. These are young boys and girls dedicated to daily reciting of the Holy Rosary.

Brother Damian traveled to Kano to present a paper titled, Teens and Identity Crisis during the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and Graduation ceremony of St. Augustine College. This was a re-union moment. Former Brother George Dadwa is the Principal and former Brother Vitalis Anthony Sodida the Vice.

The renovation of La Salle College, Ondo is well under way as certain areas have been painted and repairs of some lockers and chairs are also under way in preparation for resumption in two weeks' time.

Unfortunately, during the holidays, one of the staff; a dormitory master had an accident and is still recuperating in University College Hospital in Ibadan. A CT scan has been conducted; doctors reported that he needs sometimes to get out of the shock as he sustained some head injuries and fractured the left hand.

## **Naka**

Recent weeks have seen many important developments throughout the Sector. Mount La Salle College is gradually becoming the Mecca of the Sector and should soon earn a place on any worthwhile map. Apart from being the best school around Benue State in terms of academic and discipline. Mount La Salle College continues to draw attend of the past students. The Principal, Br. Wole Olabanjo attended Makurdi Chapter of the Old students' Association. Mount La Salle College, Naka is the first to register her initiative with the Corporate Affairs Commission of Nigeria. We hope that as soon as the forum is fully operational, the rest of the schools in the sector will come knocking on the door of Mount La Salle College.

LASALLE Troupe from Mount La Salle College, Naka thrilled the crowd with their dancing step in Utonkon during Christopher Ikor's wedding.

There is a massive renovations going on also in Mount La Salle especially, the boys' dormitories which is infested with Bats and has made the dormitories uninhabitable.

Postulancy house is left out in renovations and repairs. This September, we are

expecting ten (10) aspirants to begin formation programme. Br. Ade is getting things ready for resumption in September. The Six (6) Postulants will equally start Community experience on 5<sup>th</sup> of September 2012. Three of them will be in Ondo Community and the other three in Yola Community as well. We wish them well.

### **Yola**

As I mentioned earlier, the recent weeks have seen many important developments throughout the Sector. In Yola, Br. Gabriel Onwu is bringing his study to a close. Here again renovations of the seminary is top gear in preparations for September resumption. The Community house is not left out either.

Very interesting is the coaching class going on in the Seminary which has drawn both male and female students.

The Sector Coordinator visited Yola recently, a requested visit from the Bishop of Yola Diocese. Thanks to Brother Damian who used the opportunity to meet with community after his meeting with the Bishop. Though the Director was absent from the Community as result of home leave.

Mr. Simeon Afaako, one of the longest serving teachers has rewarded by the

Seminary and now officially retired. Thanks to Mr. Afaako for touching the hearts of many students who are now well placed in the society including the Bishop of the Diocese.

It takes both rain and sunshine to make a rainbow.

Best wishes for the new term.

## **2.3. SECTOR OF SOUTH AFRICA**

### **La Salle Community - Discovery**

Prayerful greetings to all our readers: in your Lasallian Confereres in La Salle, Discovery. We hope you all had an enjoyable and relaxing break during your school holidays.

We wish every blessing and success to those beginning their school-year in September. To those, like ourselves, who are facing end-of-year exams we pray that our learners (in South Africa we no longer use the title student or pupil!!) will achieve the success that they have worked and pray for.

There's little to report at this time of the year. Schools have been on holidays as have some of our Brothers. Br. Tom and

Cornelius have just returned from home-leave in Ireland. Br. Tim just left last week for his holiday. During his visit to Miguel House (Our Nursing Home) in Castletown, Br. Tom met with Br. Antony Furniss. He is in great form and weather permitting, is busy painting the railing round Miguel House. What a man at 92!! Br. Tom also met Br. George and he too is adjusting well to life in Dublin and has already involved himself in a number of ministries.

Classes resumed here on the 18 July. Athletics is the main sporting activity this term and we had a very successful and well organized Inter- House Sports Day on Friday 17 August. For sporting activities, our learners are divided into three Houses – Crusaders, Gladiators and Vikings. Competition is always very keen, no quarters asked or given. Our school teams have acquitted themselves well in Inter-school competitions.

Our Young Lasallians continue to meet every Tuesday afternoon for prayers, discussion, planning outreach projects and recreational activities.

At the moment, South Africa is recovering from the trauma of the “Marikana Massacre” when 34 protesting miners at the largest platinum mine in the world were shot dead

by police. When one is aware of the abysmal living and working conditions of the miners one is not surprised by such protests.

Let’s hope and pray that all parties have learned a painful lesson and that further “Marikanas” will not occur.

### **Phokeng South Africa**

Earlier this year we experienced violent industrial action at the local Impala platinum mines in the area known as Freedom Park. Our projects in the squatter camp there were disrupted and our clinic was forced to close for a few weeks. Thankfully, peace was restored and everything there is functioning as normal. At the time of the unrest the general consensus was the trouble was caused by rival unions – NUM (national union of mineworkers) and AMCU (association of mineworkers and construction union). According to reports the well established NUM, which strongly supports the ANC government was losing huge numbers to the relatively new AMCU which does not seem to be politically aligned but seems to concentrate on workers grievances. This was vehemently denied by the union officials at that time.

Now again violence has broken out at another platinum mine owned by Lonmin

company and situated about 20kms from Freedom Park. And again union rivalry is blamed and again denied by the unions. Apparently most of those on strike belong to AMCU and their demand for an increase from R5 000 to R12 500 per month is supported by AMCU officials whereas NUM officials say the strike is illegal and they cannot support such an outrageous demand.

The strike at Lonmin started last week and within days 10 people were killed. The dead were mostly NUM members but also included two policemen and two Lonmin security guards. Then on Monday, instead of going to work the striking miners gathered on a Koppie near the mine in defiance of a large contingent of police. We were aware of trouble as we could see the police caspirs on the roads and police helicopters circling overhead although we were able to continue our work in the squatter camp centres. The standoff continued until Thursday when the police moved in to force the striking miners off the hill. It is said (and TV footage supports this) that the miners were armed with pangas, assegais, knobkerries and other weapons. The police used rubber bullets, water cannons, and tear gas and the thousands of miners began to move off the

hill. What happened next is not clear. Some reports say the miners began to attack the police, other reports say the police panicked and began shooting live ammunition. What is certain is that 34 miners were killed, hundreds wounded and over 250 men arrested. The media are now calling this “the Marikana massacre”. The whole country is in a state of shock and the government has announced three days of public mourning.

President Jacob Zuma has set up a judicial commission to establish what actually happened and he himself visited the hospital in Marikana where some of the wounded were being treated. The opposition parties have shown a lot of maturity by not trying to score politically by condemning the ANC led government and adding to the tension. On the other hand, Julius Malema, expelled ANC youth league president did visit the scene on Saturday and was loud in his criticism of the government and of President Zuma in particular and of the Lonmin management.

Today is Monday and according to the latest news the Mine Company has called on the strikers to return to work or face dismissal. Apparently this threat has fallen on deaf ears and the strike continues. No one knows what the next move will be but everybody is

praying that the fragile peace will prevail and a negotiated settlement will be reached.

### **VICTORY PARK**

Schools are closed so there is not much activity.

Brothers Tom and Patrick attended Leanne Te Brake's wedding last week. Leanne is the College Lasallian Youth Coordinator. It was a colorful ceremony. We wish Leanne and Patrick a blessed marriage.

Brother Patrick continues with the Maryvale monthly vocations meeting.

Brother Tim is still in Ireland on home leave. We hope he will come back energized.

Brother Patrick held several "come and sees" in past months. There was a good response, thanks to the local Catholic Newspaper; The Southern Cross and the monthly meetings at Maryvale.

The new College building is progressing very well.

We had a visit from a number of Past Pupils from East London a couple weeks ago.

## **3. CALENDARS:**

### **Brother Marc's Calendar:**

**13.09. to 19.09.** –Scholasticate

**24.09. to 26.09.**–Novitiate

**01.10. to 03.09.** - District Formation Commission Meeting

**11.10. to 15.10.** -Community in Nyeri

**18.10. to 23.10.** - Community in Rongai and Postulancy

**23.10. to 26.10.** -Community in Nakuru

**30.10. to 02.11.** - Community in Marsabit

**07.11. to 09.11.** -Workshop for Formators in Nairobi

End of November Sector of South Africa (date to be fixed)

**04.12. to 08.12.** -Assembly of Young Brothers / Kenya

## **Visitor's Calendar:**

**September: Kenya and Nigeria:**

**3rd - 6th Kenya:**

Nakuru, CDC, Postulancy and Rongai  
Community

**13th and 14th Kenya:**

Nyeri, Karemeno

**20th – October 1st Nigeria:**

Lagos, Yola, Naka, Ondo, Lagos, Nairobi

**October 2012**

**South Africa: Oct. 21st – 26th**

October 21st South Africa: La Salle College  
Discovery, La Salle Holy Cross, Postulancy,  
Phokeng.