



Assembly of Lay Associates of Madagascar with the General Council

TAMATAVE, Madagascar - « *Feno fiderana Anao izahay ry Ray ô.. Noho ny soa sesehena 'zay nafafinao ho anay..misaotra Anao re...* » literally meaning "We praise You Lord and give You thanks for all Your benefits...". This is the song which the members of the Montfortian Lay associates known as *Association Marie Reine des Cœurs* (AMRC) of Madagascar welcomed the Superior General, Fr. Luiz Augusto STEFANI, SMM, and the Assistant General responsible for Africa-Madagascar, Fr. Félix Mabvuto PHIRI, SMM, on Friday, November 04, 2022 at the Sacred Heart Parish in Tamatave, Madagascar. They were of course accompanied by Fr. Bruno Kiky RANDRIANASOLO, SMM, the Provincial of the Vice-Province of Madagascar, Fr. Jean-Claude RAMANDRAIVONONA, SMM, national director of the AMRC and Brother François de Sales RANDRIANASOLO, SMM and lay associates in Tamatave.

Like the mystery of the Visitation, we welcomed the visit with joy and gladness. All the Associates of Madagascar were present or at least represented: the towns of Tamatave (three communities) and Tananarive (two communities), and the districts of Brickaville, Maromamy and Antsampanana. After listening to our presentation and the report of our activities, Father General shared the programs of the Congregation in 2023 and spoke about the missions of the members of the AMRC (Association of Mary Queen of Hearts) in the world.

He echoed on the need to strengthen human relations starting with the base, thus at the level of the members of the association, the community, the parishioners, society, up to the national... before opening up to international; and like the Montfort missionaries, we too, as associates, should go to the places that need "missions" and do "the mission", therefore evangelization.

As for Father Félix, he spoke of the activities following the celebration of the continental year: the monthly prayer of the Rosary by videoconference animated by the countries of the Continental mission. This moment of sharing ended with an exchange of memories, the taking of photos, lively discussions... and of course with the blessing from Father General. Thank you, Padre Luiz! Thank you, Padre Felix! *Misaotra!* Good continuation in your mission with Mary! *Veloma* and see you next time!

Fanny Joan S. HANTA-HARIVELO
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