

NU-AFA-1066  
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### **Delegation of Anglophone Africa Prepostulancy Community welcomes 11 candidates**

**BALAKA, Malawi** - Saturday, 09 September was a jubilant day to the Br. Mathurin pre-postulancy community of the delegation of Anglophone Africa as it welcomed 11 candidates into the formation program. The welcoming Mass was presided over by Fr. Paul Lonely MASHONGA, SMM, general assistant from the delegation of Anglophone. He was assisted by a number of priests from the communities in Balaka.

In his homily, Fr. Mashonga exalted the new candidates to enter the formation program fully and joyfully. He enlightened them that far from being an academic enterprise, formation is a sacred journey of transformation and maturation into the Spirit of Christ. He further urged them to know their first love i.e., what draws and inspires them to the Montfortian family and to keep that alive always. Ultimately, he emphasized on the sacrifices and crosses each has to make, together with the crosses they have to carry in order to live for God alone.

Speaking on behalf of his brothers, Dickson Muha expressed deep gratitude to the Montfortian family for ushering them into the formation program of the Company of Mary. He asked for more prayers so that as a batch, they may journey as one and continue to answer their calling faithfully.

After the Mass, the new candidates were treated to a delicious meal, cutting of cake and a memorable free dance. Of the 11 candidates, 8 come from Malawi and 3 come from Uganda. From Malawi, we have Gasper Chavula, Alex Mafupa, Dickson Muha, Augustine Banda, Dominic Gawanika, Enoch M'bwinja, Hope Soko, and Comfort Chinon'gone. From Uganda, we have Amos Asimwe, Conrad Atwebembere, and Innocent Agaba.

The 2023-24 formation program runs up to July next year with Christmas and Easter breaks in the process. We thank the God of providence for the precious gift of these young men. We echo their plea for support and prayers so that they should commit to this sacred journey of formation wholeheartedly.

*Montfort Communications*