



Presbyteral Ordination of Deacons Laurent Juma and Horrice Mkandawire

ZOMBA, Malawi - On the 28th of April, the Montfort Missionaries gathered in Sitima Parish, Zomba Diocese to celebrate the Feast of Saint Louis-Marie de Montfort and also to witness the ordination of Deacon Laurent JUMA, SMM and Deacon Horrice MKANDAWIRE, SMM to priesthood.

The main celebrant was Archbishop George Desmond TAMBALA of Lilongwe Archdiocese. The celebration was also attended by Archbishop Thomas Luke MSUSA, SMM of Blantyre Archdiocese, Bishop Montfort SITIMA of Mangochi diocese and Bishop Alessandro PAGANI, SMM, the bishop emeritus of Mangochi diocese.

The occasion was graced by the members of the Montfortian family: the Montfort Fathers, the Daughters of Wisdom and the Brothers of Saint Gabriel. Also present with them were the Montfortian lay associates, religious and priests from different dioceses, members of the faithful from different corners of the country, friends and family members of the ordinands.

During the celebration, the archbishop reminded the ordinands the need to remain strong and be closer to the cross of Jesus Christ because at the cross, very few people can be found. It is an unpleasant feeling to be there but that is where we can find Mary, the mother of Jesus.

He advised them to be ready to administer even to the unpleasant people who are present at the cross of Jesus.

In his speech, Fr. Lonely Paul MASHONGA, SMM, the Superior delegate of Anglophone Africa General Delegation, thanked Archbishop George for his availability to the Montfort missionaries and to all the bishops present for sparing their time for the Feast of St. Louis-Marie de Montfort. He also announced the new obediences of the ordinands. Fr. Juma will leave Sitima Parish to join the Inter-Congregational Institute (ICI) postulant community in Balaka while Fr. Horrice will go to the new community in Ngong diocese in Kenya, ending his two-year apostolate in Lilongwe at the Bishop Nervi community (Luntha Television community).

In his speech, Archbishop Thomas MSUSA of Blantyre Archdiocese wished the Montfortian family a happy feast and invited as well the youth who were present to consider a vocation to religious life.

The celebration ended with a meal that was shared by the members of the Montfortian family, the parents of the ordinands and the guests present.

Fr. Nobert TUKWATANISE, SMM