



### **Priestly Ordination of Deacon Trésor ESAMPELE NKUNKU, SMM**

**KINSHASA, Republique Democratique du Congo** - On Saturday, November 19, 2022, the Congregation of Montfort Missionaries had the joy of celebrating the priestly ordination of Deacon Trésor ESAMPELE NKUNKU, SMM. The priestly ordination Mass took place in Kinshasa in the Cathedral Church of Notre Dame du Congo. It started at 9 a.m. It was celebrated by his Eminence Cardinal Fridolin AMBONGO, Archbishop of Kinshasa. Two Auxiliary Bishops, Mgr. Carlos NDAKA and Mgr Albert KISONGA, concelebrated at his side as well as several priests from different parts of the city of Kinshasa.

The presence of the Montfortian family was remarkable: the Daughters of Wisdom, the Montfortian missionaries as well as the Brothers of Saint Gabriel. On the side of the Montfort missionaries, the Fathers who participated in this Mass are Fr. Louis-Guélord ASEME, SMM, Delegate Superior of the Africa Francophone General Delegation, Fr. Jean de Dieu BOKUMU, SMM, Fr. Frédéric BOLUMBU, SMM, Fr. Péguy NKUMBE, SMM, Fr. David GIAPUNDA, SMM, Fr. Jean-Louis WENZA, SMM and Deacon Charles MUMBRERE, SMM.

It should be noted that Deacon Trésor was ordained with ten other Deacons, including 8 diocesan and 2 from the Cavanis Institute (Congregation of Charity Schools). In his homily, the Cardinal invited the faithful to rejoice at the gift of new priests that the Lord is making to his Church. He noted that the priesthood is a noble and exalting vocation, but it is also a demanding one. Being a priest today confronts many challenges that can only be met by being truly friends of Christ and attached to his person as the branches are to the vine. This is how he asked the ordinands to remain attached to Christ, the High Priest.

We give thanks to the Lord for the gift of Fr. Trésor in the Company of Mary, and we pray for his priestly ministry so that, through the intercession of the Virgin Mary, the Almighty may grant him all the graces necessary to exercise it well.

*Diacre Charles MUMBERE KIPUTSU, SMM*