



Solemnity of Saint Louis-Marie Grignion de Montfort in Burundi

GITEGA, Burundi - On 28th April each year, the Montfortian Family throughout the world celebrates the birth in heaven of its founder, Saint Louis-Marie Grignion de Montfort.

Likewise, in Burundi, this festival day took place on Friday, 5th May 2023, in a parish entrusted to the Montfort Missionaries, Marie, Fille de Nazareth (Bwoga-Chioggia), in the Archdiocese of Gitega. The ceremonies began with the Eucharistic celebration presided over by Fr. Henri ALOTERAMBI, SMM, who urged us not to be tempted like the Apostles. They believed that the power or the kingship of Jesus was to govern this world in the light of the rulers of this world. This can be read in their concern, after the resurrection: “Lord, are you now going to establish the kingdom in Israel?” (Acts 1:6). But what we need to know is that Jesus gives us divine power (the Holy Spirit) to be his witnesses by our way of acting and living in order to lead our brothers and sisters to conversion, to learn to respect the commandment of love and to become Christians and disciples of Christ (Mt 28:18-20), in order to have recourse to divine Wisdom (1 Cor 1:17-26).

On this day, the Montfort Fathers and Brothers working in Burundi, the Brothers of Saint Gabriel, the Militants of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and various movements inspired by Montfort spirituality, more especially the group of Montfort lay Associates, participated in this celebration.

It should be noted here that this day was very historic because the Montfort Lay Associates celebrated their first year of existence. During the celebration, ten members consecrated themselves to Jesus through Mary according to the spirit of Father de Montfort. In effect, they were officially welcomed as direct co-operators of the Montfortian mission. Thus, expanding

the Montfortian family in Burundi. After Mass, the day ended with sharing a fraternal drink between the members of the great Montfortian family.

Long live Montfortian Family in the world!

Long live Montfortian mission in Burundi!

To Jesus through Mary!

Arthémon NZAMBIMANA
Lay Montfortian