
Camillians

News from the Missions



BULLETIN OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL FOR THE MISSIONS

Year 3 - n. 10 - 2005

PIAZZA DELLA MADDALENA 53 – 00186 ROME – TEL. 06 899.281 – FAX 06 899.281.33 – GALVANILUIGI@TISCALINET.IT

Rome

* GENERALATE

From the 10th January our number is

06.899.281

Fax

06 899.281.33

* Salute and Sviluppo

New numbers

Tel. 06 899.281.51/2

Fax 06 899.281.55

Uganda

4th Anniversary of the Camillian Mission

Jinja - In October 2004 the young Camillian mission in Uganda completed its fourth year. The two pioneers, Frs. O'Connor and Smith were guests in the local minor seminary for almost the first nine months. Later they moved to the new camillian community house. From here they launched a mobile clinic that reached the far off villages to bring help and support to HIV/AIDS sufferers and their families.

Among the many activities we had going the following are to be highlighted:

* Sensitising dioceses to pastoral health. This convinced the bishops to send two priests to the Camillianum in Rome to prepare

themselves for work in this field and to become animators in their own dioceses.

* CPE courses held by Fr. Anselmo Zambotti and Fr. Arnaldo Pangrazzi in three dioceses. One bishop was very enthused by the work of our missionaries and he offered some land for the creation of a pastoral centre that would be entrusted to the Camillians.

* In the vocation promotion field there are some hopes. Five young people are experiencing our charism with our missionaries and some nurses of the Lay Camillian Family in two hospitals.

Fr. Tom O'Connor asks for French grammars and dictionaries to allow the five to learn French with a view to their further studies in philosophy and theology in French speaking Africa.

There are however challenges and difficulties in Uganda, such as the local language and the mosquito...the people in the villages live in almost complete need. There are many cases of AIDS there. The average length of life is 46. In the culture of these people, witchcraft and other factors make the exercise of social health work difficult.

Italy

Ordination to the Diaconate

Cremona. Bro. Francis Zambotti was ordained deacon on January 5th at Cremona by Mons. Dante Caporetto, the bishop of Cremona.

Fr. Francis entered as a brother in the Lombardo-Venetian Province where he held

different posts in the Province and in the Order. He was a Consultor general at Rome for six years. He was the originator of the "TENDE DI CRISTO" small communities scattered throughout Italy and some South American countries. They take care of AIDS sufferers and drug addicts. Our best wishes to him for his coming priestly ordination.

Philippines

Sudden death of Fr. Peter Ferri

Davao City. The sudden death of **Fr. Peter Ferri** on the 22nd Dec last at the age of 55 profoundly shocked the missionaries in the Philippines.

He left for Taiwan in 1971 when he was still a student of theology and he was one of the pioneers of the Philippines foundation in 1975. His presence and his contribution to the development of the mission was significant. In the young Philippine province he held different posts of responsibility and administration.

Many of the seminarians remember him for his generous spirit of availability.

On his families wish his body was brought to his birthplace, Monzambano, Mantova where he now rests with his family.

The funeral celebration was moving. It was presided over by the Bishop of Mantua. A large number of clergy were in attendance.

South East Asia

Tidal Wave – The shocking catastrophe that struck a number of countries in South East Asia shook the world. Pictures of the destruction filled us with deep compassion.

It was moving to witness how the nations of the whole world felt, perhaps for the first time, like a big family in generously responding with aid. Our missionaries from Thailand and India left immediately to go to the stricken areas and to bring medical and other aid to the victims.

Fr. General, who was on a visit to our Indian confreres, and Fr. Jacques Simporè, the Consultor for Ministry described the dramatic situation of the stricken zones and said they

were proud of our missionaries and of their aid work.

Our Order also associated itself with the solidarity of the world family by promoting and coordinating a campaign for humanitarian aid to the stricken areas in an appeal written by the General and the General Secretary for the Missions and by different Provincials.

Anyone wishing to contribute should do so through postal account

n. 00346007
made out to

Secretary General for Camillian Missions Piazza della Maddalena 53

Rome 00186

Casuale: aiuto vittime del maremoto

Peru

Chosica – Novitiate House: Three novices of the Peruvian Delegation, **Juan Alarcon Huanca, Ronald Oblitas Cabrera** and **Samuel Tantalean Chilcon** made their first Profession, pronouncing their vows of poverty, chastity, obedience and service to the sick, even with danger to ones life.

The three newly professed will join the other 15 clerics at the Camillian Seminary in Lima for the study of theology.

India

Priestly Ordination

Mananthavady - On the 12th and 13th of January were ordained priests

- **Sunny Aresseril**
- **Biju Nannattu**

These ordinations brought the number of priests in the Indian Delegation to 28. There are also one brother in perpetual vows, 20 clerics and 9 novices spread over five communities.

Indonesia

Camillian task force

Banca Aceh. Indonesia was the worst hit country by the destructive tidal wave. The

number of victims is over 320,000 victims. The disaster was described in apocalyptic language. The presence of the Camillian task force was not long in making itself felt in this area. Fr. Scott Binet a medical doctor and coordinator of the CTF immediately left after the disaster for Indonesia putting himself at the disposition of Caritas of the Indonesian Episcopal Conference.

"I have never seen anything so terrible – Fr Scott wrote to us - Nevertheless I am here to encourage and help these poor people to begin again"

The presence of the "Camillian Red Cross" on the breast of Fr. Scott, while he was walking through the ruins was a big moral boost for thousands of people involved in this disaster.

The Camillians, wrote the Father General in one of his recent letters to the Camillian Missionaries in Thailand and India, were among the first to bring help to the victims of the tidal wave. We are proud of them for what they have done.

India

Snehadaan: Welcome and care service for AIDS patients

Bangalore: Opened in 1997, this Camillian centre exclusively assists patients and their families who have HIV/AIDS.

In 2004, 203 new patients were admitted and 49 were readmitted.

195 patients were discharged. Their condition had improved. In the same year 51 patients died.

The out patient department looks after 102 patients and provides counselling, consultation and medical care. A rural programme which covers 42 villages has started up.

On professional formation for the care of aids/hiv different courses have been held. 35 doctors, 21 nurses and 49 paramedics took part in these.

The centre hopes that shortly it will network with other similar organisations to provide better help to the sick and to provide a better preventive care programme.

Philippines

New Nursing School

Manaoag – The Lay Camillian Family, which recently formed itself into a foundation, blessed the first stone of the New Adler Nursing School in the present of the Consultor General Fr. Luigi Galvani. The primary reason behind this project was to allow the numerous young people of the area to have access to this school. It is being built on 3 hectares of land. It allows them to set their sights on a profession and to look to a better future like some many of their age that have opportunities for further study.

The Camillian Family of Manaoag, a city of some 70 thousand inhabitants, some 200km from Manila have excelled in having realised in such a short time some educational facilities on the three hectare site – an infant school for a hundred children, an elementary school for 150 pupils, a middle school for 40 students and a new school for 400/500 nurses and obstetricians.

Thus it will be possible to educate and prepare hundreds of young people to know and exercise the charism of service and the charity of St. Camillus. He, indeed, wishes that Camillians not only served the sick with love "as a mother treats here only child who is sick", but also teach them to likewise. This is the objective that the members of LCF in the Philippines had in mind in constructing this new school

The project will be completed thanks to the generosity of numerous benefactors who intent sharing their sensibility and their closeness with the Camillian Mission in the Philippines.

Italy

Solidarity for the Lan Yang Centre of Lotung

Monteforte, Verona. The 22nd and 23rd of January saw the 30th anniversary of a marathon for professionals and aficionados at Monteforte in the province of Verona.

Each year the Organising Committee couples to the sports event a solidarity venture, which goes for our Missions. This year the Young

Catholic Centre of Lan Yang in Lotung was selected. Fr. Giancarlo Nichelini a 41 year veteran from the mission in Taiwan directs this work.

The pupils of Elementary Schools and catechism pupils from the Verona Province were involved in an art competition on the theme “Thirty years of friendship – Let’s dance together”.

A committee was selected to judge the entries and decide results. The first three received their awards from the Taiwan Ambassador to the Holy See and were awarded a diploma and an audience with the Holy Father in Rome.

Representing the Camillians and the Taiwan Missionaries were Frs. Luigi Galvani and Carlo Vanzo, Director of the Casa di Cura of St. Camillus at Alberini, Venezia, speaker, among other things, at the Convention on Sport – Solidarity and Healthy Living”. The event was successful and was a good means of showing that sport is a means of making friendship and solidarity grow among the people.

Death of Fr. Santino Evangelista, missionary of charity.

Rome. On Jan 21st, in St James Hospital, Fr Evangelist SANTINO returned to his father’s house aged 76 years. He ministered untiringly for 24 years in the Roman hospitals. He was a lover of the charism of St. Camillus and never missed proposing it to young people. Among those whom Fr. Evangelist addressed was his fellow countryman Nicotina D’Onofrio, a young Camillian who died at the age of 23 of an incurable disease. The year was 1964. Nicotina’s case for beatification is currently being studied. Now they are together in heaven enjoying their reward.

Haiti

The small Haiti doesn’t have peace

The News from Haiti is no longer on the front pages of the newspapers like in the past. The present social situation is still serious. Last September 30 was the 13th anniversary of the exiling of the former president, Bertrand Aristide. On that occasion, groups of rebels invaded the capital killing many people, burning cars and occupying some areas in

which neither policeman nor ONU soldiers couldn’t penetrate.

The economic situation of the country was very critical; many factories and shopping centers were forced to close for lack of supplies. The big boats couldn’t reach the port area and containers were sacked by rebels.

The two containers shipped to our Camillian mission were diverted to the port of San Domingo. Then it took three months to process the papers and to get the goods to our mission. The goods were of great help for the poor and for some religious congregations which were experiencing shortage of food.

Thailandia

A Camillian team helping the people of Morgan

Bangkok (Fides Agency) – A Camillian medical team, composed of a doctor, four nurses, three psychologists and other helpers, left Bangkok and reached Morgan village to assist 300 family victims of tsunami.

Since their village, Bang Sak was totally destroyed, the residents were forced to move to higher locations. At present, they live in tents in the forests and they are supplied with food, water, clothing and first aid by the government. Though the situation is improved, it remains critical.

For centuries, the tribal Morgan population lives along the seashore. Many of them still speak their traditional dialect and don’t know the Thai language.

Very few of them went to primary school and don’t have personal documents. This is the reason why they cannot claim any medical and social assistance from the government. They are the poorest among the poor.

Fr. Paul Cherdchai Lertjitlekha, Vice Provincial of Thailand, wrote that the Camillian missionaries will continue to assist them till a new village will be reconstructed.

