

Missionaries of AFRICA

May 2010 Issue no 129

White Fathers, Cypress Grove, Templeogue, Dublin 6 W.
Tel: Office: 405 5526 House: 405 5263/64: Fax 492 0190. email: proviri@indigo.ie

CHAPTER NEW BEGININGS 2010

The 42nd chapter of the Missionaries of Africa will take place in Rome from 10th May to 11th June. A Chapter is a general meeting of representatives of the Society who meet to elect a new Superior General. They will also elect a General Council of 4 members who are to assist the new Superior General in guiding the society over the next six years. The chapter will also review our missionary activity since the last Chapter in 2004 and will attempt to see how best we might serve Africa and African Church for the next 6 years and beyond. We are looking to review our successes, but also to understand better our setbacks and mistakes in order to rectify them.

In 2004 the society had 1,775 members. By 2010 this number had shrunk to 1,541. However the rate of decrease is lessening as more young members from Africa, India, Poland, Mexico and the Philippines join our ranks. In 2004 we had 339 students. Now we have over 400. We thank God that our efforts at promoting vocations are bearing fruit. We will rely a lot on these young men to ensure that the mission of the society will continue. Indeed, there will be a significant representation from Africa at among the delegates to the Chapter. Of the 42 delegates expected to attend, 16 will be from Africa with one each from the Philippines and Mexico. Who knows maybe this Chapter will give us Superior General from Africa for the first time. The new generations are ready to take over. Please keep them all in your prayers as they try to discern what God expects of us in the future.



Views in Rome of the Mother house of the Missioaries of Africa

South Africa and the State of Play for the 2010 World Cup

There is no doubt that an air of optimism and expectation is gaining momentum daily in South Africa as the country fast approaches the dawn of the first World Cup tournament ever to be played on African soil. The tournament is clearly seen as an African event and a mass publicity campaign express this but the rewards, and there will be many, are clearly for South Africa.

Five new impressive stadiums have been built and a further five substantially refurbished to meet FIFA requirements. This brought a massive injection of finance and labor into the South African economy, to the point South Africa was largely able to ride the wave of the economic depression that hit the world in recent years. Tens of thousands found employment in the building and refurbishing of stadiums, while tens of thousands more found gainful employment in a massive road improvement infrastructure program to be completed before the World Cup begins. Public transport and airport facilities have been significantly beefed-up. The irony is that as the World Cup comes closer the majority of these people will lose their jobs.

Two years back the Denis Hurley Peace Institute (DHPI) did embark on an initiative to host a Child Soldiers World Cup prior to the official World Cup. The idea was to bring youth from war torn areas around the globe to highlight the effects of war on children and youth. Though big business was keen to finance the initiative it was cut in the bud by FIFA officials, on the one hand, who said they owed the rights to anything associate with the words 'World Cup' and on the other hand, by the South African government who said they could not guarantee visas to such people for fear they would abscond in South Africa and refuse to return home. The forces of opposition proved too powerful for such an initiative to see the light of day. In fact, a number of similar initiatives have also bitten the dust as FIFA clearly wants nothing to detract from the World Cup itself.

South Africa is one of the countries with the highest differences between the rich and the poor in the world. In such an economic imbalance the price of tickets for games becomes an issue. In a country where the majority of families live on \$200 a month or less; the cheapest tickets at \$20 are simply too expensive. And yet soccer is the sport of the people with rugby and cricket the sports of the minority 'white' community. However, for the World Cup the reserve is expected to happen where the stands will be littered with the 'white' community given the stature of the event and the fact that they can afford to pay. However, to their credit the South African government have legislated that all World Cup games have to be shown on national television and cannot be privatized.

However, there is a very positive spin-off that is worth noting. The South African Football Association (SAFA) has successfully used the build up to the World Cup to do serious promotion of the game in the most disadvantaged areas of the country. Soccer pitches are spring

up all over the country with improved facilities and legends such as Diego Maradona and David Beckham, to name but two, have been invited to the country to hold soccer camps in the poorest of areas.

Another positive spin off is the emergence of Bed and Breakfast accommodation in previous disadvantaged areas such as Soweto. In fact, a new tourist culture is growing, attracting as it does thousands to savor 'township' life and real African hospitality. The World Cup, bring with it so many supporters, is destined to exploit further this new tourist initiative.

Despite an array of possible worries, such as high crime and a dubious transport system, South Africa is ready to deliver a truly remarkable World Cup that will make Africa proud and astonish the world. Let the games begin!

Seán O'Leary
Director
Denis Hurley Peace Institute (with permission)



Soccer City Johannesburg Venue of the World Cup final. Shaped like an African Calabash a traditional African bowl



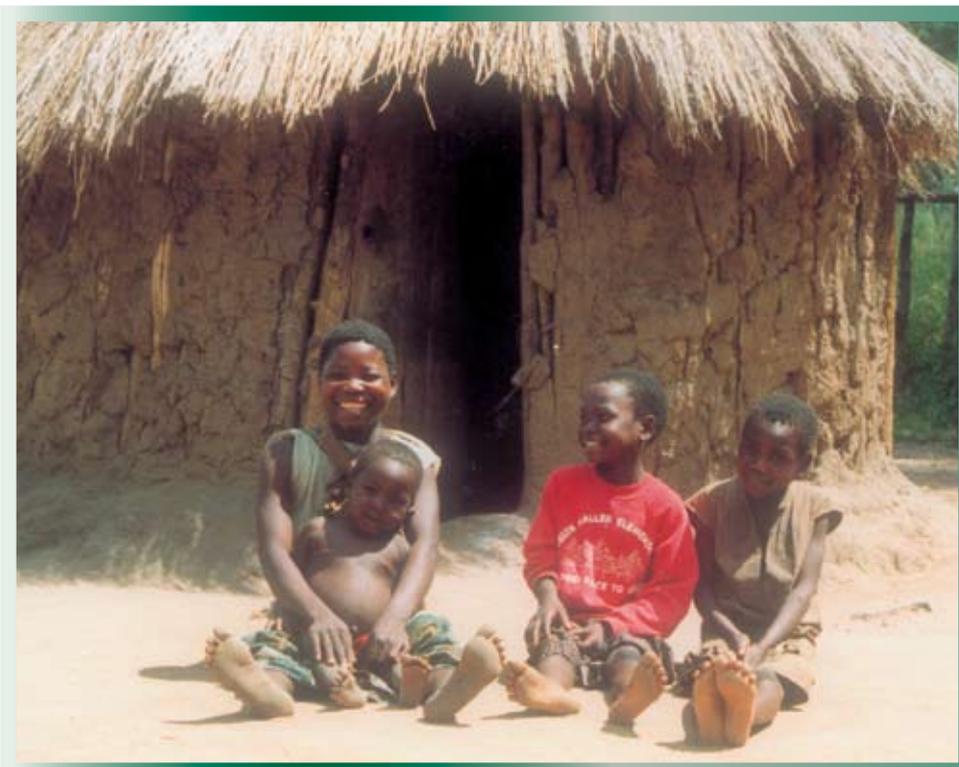
Ellis Stadium, one of the venues for the World Cup.

Missionaries of Africa (White Fathers) Raffle Results 2010

1st Prize €2,000 euro:	Mt Liam Harvey, 146 Loughmallon Road, Pomeroy, Dungannon, Co. Tyrone, BT70 2SY
Seller Prize: €100:	Mr Liam Harvey (as above)
2nd Prize €600 euro:	Mr. Jerry McAleenan, 87D Canal Street, Newry, Co. Down BT35 6DX
Seller Prize; €100:	Mrs Josephine McAleenan as above
3rd Prize: €400 euro:	Mrs Pauline Dunne, Brackagh, Clonard, Enfield, Co. Meath
Seller €100 euro:	Mrs. Pauline Dunne as above

WORLD CUP ANOTHER SIDE TO THE STORY.

South Africa will host the World Cup in June/July of this year. It is hoped that it will be a great showcase of African achievement. However as happened in Germany in 2006 a large number of women and vulnerable young people were trafficked to supply sexual services to visitors and fans. There was an air of incredulity and denial at the time when this matter was brought to the attention of the media. Now a religious sister from Zambia has again brought the matter to the attention of the public and an appeal to people travelling to the South Africa not to exploit these vulnerable people. In Lusaka the capital of Zambia, The Jesuit Centre for Theological Reflection has sent a statement which highlights this danger. It was published on the 10th May by the Agenzia Fides



We have a duty to protect them.

“The thought of the World Cup in Africa arouses great excitement and pride in most Africans. But there is also great anxiety because this big event brings with it the terrible possibility of increased human trafficking,” says a statement sent to Agenzia Fides from the “Jesuit Centre for Theological Reflection” (JCTR) in Lusaka, capital of Zambia. The Jesuits recall that the danger of a sharp increase in trafficking with the World Cup in South Africa (opening June 11) is “especially true because South Africa is already a popular destination for this cruel crime.” For some time now, the Church in South Africa has sent out an alert on this problem.

Reports on human trafficking indicate that about 800,000 people per year are trafficked across international borders and many more within individual countries. Traffickers make as much money as US \$12 billion per year.

Trafficking in human persons, says JCTR, is also a threat to the people of Zambia. “This crime often sounds so remote to many of us because it is a hidden and a very sophisticated crime and this invisibility really puts many people at risk,” says Sr. Kayula Lesa, JCTR Church Social Teaching Coordinator.

According to the statement, “Reports about Zambia in this regard are very worrying. Large numbers of women and children -- especially female adolescents -- are even now being trafficked within Zambia and across our borders to South African via Zimbabwe and to Europe via Malawi.”

“For many victims, this business is facilitated by the people they are close to,” recounts Sr. Lesa, “with relatives, acquaintances, religious leaders and business people cheating them, [saying] that there are greater opportunities elsewhere for the victims to improve their lives.”

JCTR affirms that people can be saved from trafficking, working with organizations that fight against the crime, like International Organisation for Migration (IOM), the Sisters of Charity (RSCs), Women and Law in Southern Africa (WLSA). In September 2008,

Zambia’s government put an Anti-Human Trafficking Law in place.

According to Sr. Lesa, Zambians can do a lot within the remaining days before the World Cup and beyond. These include:

- “1. Raising awareness: Victims tend to be those who have never heard of human trafficking. We have a duty to educate our families and people in our communities.
2. Praying for victims: We can dedicate a day of prayer for victims, especially on a Sunday close to the World Cup, and as we do this, we also raise awareness.
3. Promoting Government pro-poor policies: One important fact that fuels this crime is poverty. A search for a better life has landed many victims into the traffickers’ hands. It is important that we advocate for pro-poor policies and promote economic and social rights in our new Constitution.
4. Encouraging police action: We cooperate with the police in reporting cases that we suspect to be human trafficking. The police then can take an immediate role in seeing to it that these cases are acted upon.”

In Ireland we are beginning to be aware of this growing trend in the exploitation of young women and men and it would be good to be ready to stretch out helping hand to them. If we have concerns, we should be ready to express them to the local authorities or to an organisation that has been set up to help people in this difficult situation:

Ruhama, All Hallows College, Drumcondra Dublin 9, phone no; 01 836 0292 or their website at www.ruhama.ie

Please Pray for our Friends who have Died

Mrs. Margaret (Peggy) O'Neill, Ballinderry Road, Lisburn,
Co. Antrim

Mrs. Jean McKeown, Briarwood, Vevay Road, Bray, Co. Wicklow

Sr. Elizabeth Finnegan, Beech Park, Stillorgan, Co. Dublin

Mrs. Patricia Shanahan (nee Clarke), Kilcoole, Co. Wicklow.

Sr. Thomas Ryan, Perpetual Adoration Convent, Bride Street,
Wexford.

Sr. Monica Duffy, Parkmore Convent, Roscrea, Co. Tipperary.

Mrs. Frances Patton, Kilmacrennan, Co. Donegal.

Mrs. Watters, Balllyscannell, Ballinafull, Co. Sligo.

Mrs. Bridget McManus, Furnaceland, Swanlinbar, Co. Cavan

Mr. Joe Laughlin, Dowra, Co. Leitrim

Mr. Peter, Haughey, Listillion, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal.

Canon William Noonan, Templemore, Co. Tipperary

Ms. Teresa McGarry, Heatherview Drive, Aylsbury, Dublin 24.

Mr. Francis Hughes, Dressogue, Maguiresbridge, Co. Fermanagh.

Miss Mary McGuigan, Mary Street, Newry, Co. Down

Mrs. Anne Baker, Geraldine St. Dublin, 7

Mrs. Frances Doherty, Leathardan, Rathmullan, Co. Donegal.

Mr. Jamie McMenamin, 119 Tullycar Road, Castlederg, Co.
Tyrone

Mrs. Kathleen Maguire, Corgary, Castlederg, Co. Tyrone

Fr. Willie Sproule, Aghyaran, Castlederg, Co. Tyrone

Mrs. Maura Murphy, Wycherley Terrace, Cork

Miss Norah McCarthy, Willow Park, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary

Mr. Donal Deasy, Ahofore, Timoleague, Co. Cork

Mr. John Fitzpatrick, Rosscarbery, Co. Cork

Mrs. Norah O'Cathain (nee Liddy) Park Avenue, Castleknock,
Dublin 15

Mrs. Meadhbh Troy, Rathfarnham, Dublin

Mrs. Kathleen Sarsfield, Milford, Co. Donegal

Mrs. Sheila Sullivan, Rathgar Dublin 6

(Mother of Fr. Dave Sullivan, M.Afr)

Ms Patricia Maguire, Callystown, Clogherhead, Co. Louth

*Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will
come again.*

May they Rest in Peace with the Father



Novena to St. Anthony June 13th-21st:

Because we are convinced of the power of prayer and the powerful intercession of St. Anthony, we invite you to join us in nine days of prayer.

Please write down your intentions, place them in the enclosed envelope and return to us as soon as possible. The envelopes are placed on the altar during the novena and burned unread at the end. Please do not place any money in the small envelope.

Each day during the Novena we shall be offering Holy Mass for all your intentions.

We shall have a particular remembrance of all those doing exams at this time.

St. Anthony was a great friend of the poor and all those in need. He even risked his life by going to Morocco as a missionary, because he wanted to help the poor.

He is the patron of our Bursary Fund for the training of missionaries.

PLEASE REMEMBER THE MISSIONS IN YOUR WILL

Our legal name is Missionaries of Africa (White Fathers).

A suitable formula is:

I give to the Society of Missionaries of Africa (White Fathers) the sum of €..... free of duty. And I declare that the Delegate Superior of the Society who now resides at Cypress Grove, Templeogue, Dublin 6W shall be in good discharge.

Carry on the good work you have been doing during your life by helping to spread the Gospel after you have gone to the Father.