



AFRICA CALLING

Newsletter
of the
Missionaries of Africa in the Philippines
2/2009

Water - 400 mm Rainfall in just six hours: Listening to creations hard lessons taught by Baguio Ondoy

The effects of global warming on water is one of the main reasons for the urgency of the United Nations' conference on climate change in Copenhagen this December.



Manila under water – Sept 26, 2009

Global warming is causing too much water leading to floods and too little bringing droughts – both extremes are

catastrophic for people, plants and animals.

Jesus' seed parables presumed a stable climate where the sower knew the winter rains would come and allow the seeds to germinate and grow (cf. Deut 11.13-14; Lev. 26.3-4). Now weather patterns are unreliable. Higher temperatures are causing heat waves, droughts and forest fires. As a warmer atmosphere holds more water vapor there will be heavier rains and greater floods. A warmer world will experience stronger thunderstorms, tropical storms and tornadoes.

One sixth of the world's population relies on glacial melt from the Himalayas. It's not hard to work out what will happen to them in a warmer world, is it? First, the melting glaciers flush the rivers, increasing the chance of flooding. But once the ice has gone drought and famine will ensue.

And of course the melting glaciers and thermal expansion of the oceans are making sea levels rise. Whole swathes of low lying agricultural land and living space for human and non-human creatures will be taken by the sea. In Bangladesh alone 10 million people live below 1 meter about sea level. The good news on water is that it can be used to generate electricity. A large wave farm is being built 16 km off the coast of Cornwall/England. Three Pelamis wave energy devices will float on the surface and connect with electrical equipment on the seabed which will be linked by cable to an onshore substation. Off the coast of Northern Ireland twin underwater turbines are being built to trap the tides, passing the water through turbines to produce electricity in both incoming and outgoing tides. Can such innovative designs offer alternatives to fossil-fuel power generation?

Source: Barbara Echlin and Ruth Jarman

<http://www.christian-ecology.org.uk/m0908.htm>

newz upd8s ...

James Dela Cerna just finished his 30-days Ignatian retreat. He has already completed his first year of theology at Tangaza College in Nairobi/Kenya. In his emailed letter he writes:

"Warm greetings from Nairobi! 29th of July: This date marks the end of my first year in South B 'Balozi' formation house. My life continues with due respect to our community life project



which emphasises four dimensions of life, namely: community, academic, spiritual life and apostolate. People here find it difficult to differentiate me from a Chinese.

As a result, I am called as such! I might openly state it clearly that actually this is for my own advantage as the Chinese are feared, even by the Armed Robbers. And as you know, robbery

is common in Nairobi. Thank God I have not been a victim of robbery yet! Community Life: My first impression of the community life was very promising. I thought that community life was going to be much easier due to the fact that the majority of us had just come back from the 20 months of stage (James spend his apostolic training with the people of Karamoja/Northern Uganda) and had had a wonderful experience in this area. However, it remains a challenge and it will always be such. I have had to develop a new spirit of adaptation, to respect and to love our differences. In general it was a fruitful and a joyful year." If you like to write to James, here is the address:

Jurey James V. Dela Cerna <jj_delacerna@yahoo.com>

Cebu 1st cycle Formation Community: Since the beginning of the new semester we have received Bryan Fhear Redondo from Digos, a nursing graduate from Digos as the only new student in the first year.

Ryan Contamina (picture) spent the months of July and August with his family on Siargao Island and has arrived safely in Kasama for the English-speaking novitiate/spiritual year in Zambia/East Africa.



Fr. Luisito "Loloy" Poe, originally from Davao, spent

twelve short weeks on home leave in the Philippines from March 1 until June 1, 2009. During his home leave he was able to pay a visit to Fr. Dioscoro "Coro" Pansito Malugao's family at Laya/Baclayon on Bohol Island. Both Loloy and Coro are Missionaries of Africa in Zambia.



Br. Lito Garay Doguiles M. Afr. has come to the end of a fruitful year spent "at home" with us in Cebu. After his successful



graduation he did not rest but decided to participate in a summer institute at CSCST offering a course in "Strategies in Meeting the Needs of Special Children" to prepare himself for his new assignment in Tabora in Tanzania/East Africa.

Once more a very big "THANK YOU" to you, Lito, for the time you spend with us

and the enrichment you brought to our formation community with your many talents and gifts but even more for being with us as "Kuya Lito". Our prayer will accompany your journey back to Tanzania (where you already lived during your 20 months on apostolic training). May the Holy Spirit be your helper as you now need to re-format your hard disc once more to Swahili!

Both Lito and Ryan left together for their new appointment on the evening of Sept 7, 2009. Both have arrived safely in their new destinations!

Nelson Carreon, an aspirant with Lito Doguiles during the early days of the Missionaries of Africa in Cebu now works as a VSO volunteer in Ghana/West Africa, the African country recently visited by US President Barack Obama. He writes from there: "Greetings from Ghana! Akwaaba! (Meaning: "Welcome!" in the Akan languages) I am sending you some pictures about my work and the new facility of the rehab center that Ghana government is about to open this August. This will become the first rehab center for drug dependents and alcoholics in Ghana. Mabuhay ang Filipino" Thanks, Nelson, for keeping in touch and for being our ambassador to Ghana! Hope you will have a chance to pay a visit to the first cycle formation house at Ejisu near Kumasi! Here is Nelson's email for those who would like to contact him: "Nelson Carreon" mailto:familycircle_npc07@yahoo.com



Quiz:

A. What animal is this? B. Is it male or female?

The first to send in the right answers to molafricavoc@yahoo.com will receive a price worth Php 250.



Focus on the Link between Faith and Justice

Pope Benedict XVI. recent encyclical "Caritas in Veritate" "truth in love", a profound reflection on the link between faith, justice and human development, provides much food for thought His words can help us focus on our founder's concern to translate our faith into action for justice. Here is an extract:



Fr. Coro Malugao stirring porridge

Justice and the common good.

First of all, justice. "Ubi societas, ibi ius" (Translation: "Wherever there is a human society, there is a sense of law"): every society draws up its own system of justice. Charity goes beyond justice, because to love is to give, to offer what is "mine" to the other; but it never lacks justice, which prompts us to give the other what is "his", what is due to him by reason of his being or his acting. I cannot

6. "Caritas in veritate" is the principle around which the Church's social doctrine turns, a principle that takes on practical form in the criteria that govern moral action. I would like to consider two of these in particular, of special relevance to the commitment to development in an increasingly globalized society:

"give" what is mine to the other, without first giving him what pertains to him in justice. If we love others with charity, then first of all we are just towards them. Not only is justice not extraneous to charity, not only is it not an alternative or parallel path to charity: justice is inseparable from charity[1], and intrinsic to it. Justice is the primary way of charity or, in Paul VI's words, "the minimum measure" of it[2], an integral part of the love "in deed and in truth" (1 Jn 3:18), to which Saint John exhorts us. On the one hand, charity demands justice: recognition and respect for the legitimate rights of individuals and peoples. It strives to build the earthly city according to law and justice. On the other hand, charity transcends justice and completes it in

the logic of giving and forgiving[3]. The earthly city is promoted not merely by relationships of rights and duties, but to an even greater and more fundamental extent by relationships of gratuitousness, mercy and communion. Charity always manifests God's love in human relationships as well, it gives theological and salvific value to all commitment for justice in the world.

http://www.vatican.va/holy_father/benedict_xvi/encyclicals/documents/hf_ben-xvi_enc_20090629_caritas-in-veritate_en.html

5 CONTINENTS EXPRESS SOLIDARITY WITH AFRICA

Representatives from five continents addressed the **Synod of Bishops for Africa**, underlining points of unity with the people of that land and proposing ways of intercontinental collaboration.

Also underlining the similarity between the Church in Africa and on his continent, **Archbishop Orlando Quevedo of Cotabato**, Philippines, general secretary of the Federation of Asian Bishops' Conferences, described both Catholic communities as "young."

"Both continents are continents of the poor and of the young," he said.

The prelate underlined the realities that Africa and Asia share,

including "the treasure of cherished traditional family values that are truly human, the thousands of languages spoken, the encounter between Christianity, Islam, and indigenous traditional religions." He expressed solidarity of his continent with Africa, as well as the desire to meet the common challenges faced by the Church in both places. **(Source: www.zenit.org)**

Fr. Dioscoro Pancito Malugao from Laya/Baclayon on Bohol Island e-mailed from Lusaka:



"Greetings from Southern African Province! It is something new for us so we do few adjustments and we are not yet used of the system. We divided Zambia into 2 sectors, northern and southern sectors respectively. Kitwe and Ndola are belong to the northern sectors. I'm one of

the councilors by the way.

We will be having a general assembly on the 2nd week of October which will probably last for three days. We hope that the assembly will go smoothly and we will be able to discuss issues for for the good of the sector and for the province at large.

I arrived in Lusaka yesterday then after few minutes, i experienced joints pain so i went for a check up to the hospital. The doctor discovered that im suffering with malaria but I'm slowly recovering after taking the dose. Perhaps it is over-fatigue after being alone in Kitwe for more than a month.

At the moment waiting for my visa to go to Malawi for a young confreres' meeting in our province. Im glad that we have a meeting in Malawi, it will be a crucial break for me and stop thinking about parish work for few days. Anyway, my partner, Maurice is back now. Here are some pictures that I have taken from our parish"

Fr. Dioscoro Malugao Pancito M. Afr. (Kitwe/Zambia)

Birthdays and E-mail contacts updated			
FILIPINO MISSIONARIES OF AFRICA			Date of Birth
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POE	chileshechris@yahoo.com	Luisito	25-04-1970
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MALUGAO	mdioscoro@yahoo.com	Dioscoro	25-02-1973
DOGUILLES	litodoguilles@yahoo.com	Lito	20-06-1969
MISSIONARIES OF AFRICA APPOINTED TO THE PHILIPPINES			
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STUDENTS IN FORMATION IN CEBU			
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RABELAS	christophermrabelas@yahoo.com	Christopher	30-05-1981

Last but not least: Every year we have the opportunity to reap the fruits of our French classes when the French Embassy together with the Cebu Arts Council organizes the French Film Festival. This year one of the highlights was the film "Home" by Jean Arthus Bertrand: <http://www.youtube.com/user/homeproject?blend=1&ob=4>
An awesome account in pictures of our interconnectedness on "spaceship Mother Earth"!