

The Voice That Cries Out

KOINONIA JOHN THE BAPTIST SOUTH AFRICA

Newsletter

#10 / January 2018

"I waited patiently for the Lord's help; then he listened to me and heard my cry." (Psalm 40,1)

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Christ is risen!

We would like to share with you some words and pictures typical of the culture in which we live, to share colors, dances and sensitivities which are different from our European ones.

The encounter between cultures and mentalities is always a challenge, but behind every real challenge there is always real growth, something new, which we are not usually prepared for, or which we imagined differently. It is then that we need to change our attitude and expectations, taking time to stop and understand something new and to start walking according to a rhythm that is

different from our usual one, so as to be able to create that channel of communication in which the Gospel can flow.

But is it not like this every with every person we meet? Is this not the love that we pray for every day? Yes, of course it is!

Then let's all do it - let's walk listening to the heartbeat of the other, so that we can communicate Christ and meet Him in the other person.

Michal Wojciechowski



YOUTH FESTIVAL

Music and dance are very strong forms of expression in the African people.

On 17th December 2017, in Lourdes Mission, twenty-five groups were able to express themselves, for the second presentation of the "Youth Festival", in front of a thousand spectators.

The groups competed within six different categories of song and dance, each one very different from the other: from the "Ingoma", with traditional clothes and sticks, slamming their feet on the ground, to the "Isichatamiya", in elegant

clothes and singing stories in different tones of voice. The focal point of these dances is the coordination of the movements: each group performs in a synchronized way, giving the impression of seeing only one person dancing.

It was very hard for the jury to choose the winners for each category, because they were all very good, but in the end only those who came first took home the prize of a thousand Rands; the second placed and third placed winners had to settle for a certificate of participation!

Gabriele



JABULAND

Jabuland! Land of joy! Lourdes Mission became the land of joy and fun for more than 2000 children living in the Mission and in the surrounding areas.

On December 17th, 2017, we organized, as we do every year, a Christmas party for children, sponsored by MSC. It started off with a warm welcome. The children who live farthest away arrived in four buses specially organized for them, while the other walked in from their villages. After Mass, with the representation of the birth of Jesus, everyone entered into the Christmas spirit. Finally there was a limitless time of games! Children were running from

one bouncy castle to another, from one game to another! The plaza emptied only when the distribution of hot dogs was announced! At about 1pm, the ice cream machine arrived, chased by an endless queue of children!

The afternoon was reserved for presents. Presents for everyone! Most of the children received more than one present; both children and adults enjoyed a unique day. On the day of the party, many of them asked us when the next Jabuland would be, and we replied that it would be next December, if no one moved Christmas!

Krysia



IGNACE MUTOMBO

On January 6th, 2018 in "Sanctuary", Cullinan, there was a day of celebration and great joy for our community. Present at the event were the Lourdes Mission community with some friends and external members from Umzimkulu, and the small new community of Pretoria.

We rejoiced together in the chapel with our Congolese brother, Ignace Mutombo, as he professed his perpetual vows and received diaconal ordination through the hands of the bishop of the diocese of Umzimkulu, Stanislaw Dziuba.

Some members of his family were also present at the celebration: his elder brother Jean-Pierre (from Congo), his sister, his younger brother and other friends of Ignace's who live in Johannesburg. The Federal Office was represented by the general secretary, Séverine Martel, and she was accompanied by another girl. After

Ignatius' 'Yes' forever in the Koinonia John the Baptist community, the Eucharistic celebration continued.

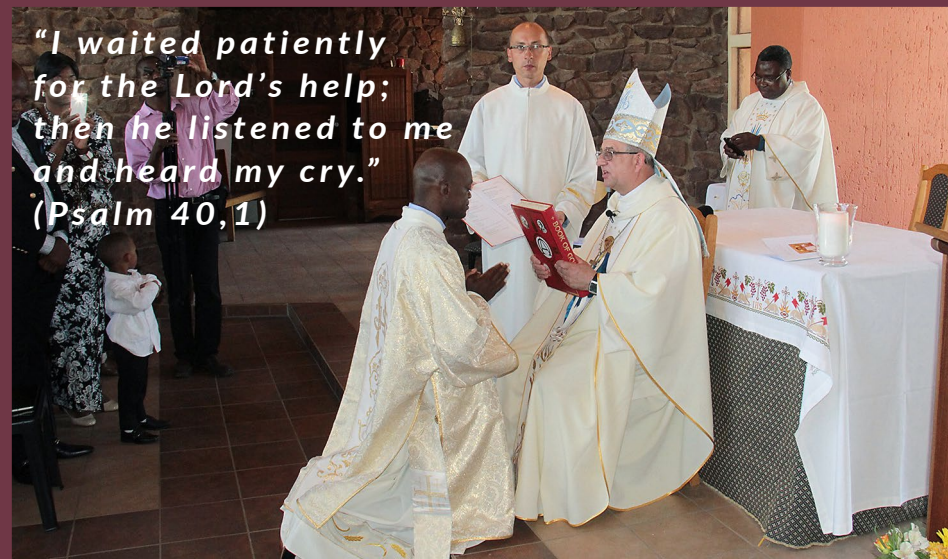
It was a day where the light of the Lord shone in our community and particularly in the life of Ignace. He himself expressed a great joy and

gratitude to finally belonging to the Lord forever.

May his generous 'Yes' to the Lord be a renewed motivation in our lives, to say 'Yes' in everyday life.

Silvia

*"I waited patiently for the Lord's help; then he listened to me and heard my cry."
(Psalm 40,1)*



TESTIMONY

Ever since I was a child, I had a strong desire to give my life to the Lord. In 2003 I joined the "Diving Word Missionaries" in the Democratic Republic of Congo (my native country). In 2013, I left the congregation and went to live in South Africa, where I started a new life, no longer thinking about consecrated life. In 2014 I met Koinonia John the Baptist, the

community that the Lord had prepared for me, since before I was born.

Thus, with joy and tears, on January 6th, 2018, the Lord received my perpetual consecration. Now I'm His forever. Thank you Jesus for calling me to consecrate my life forever.

Ignace



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