



# COMBONI MISSIONARIES

(Verona Fathers)

\*GLASGOW \*

138 Carmyle Avenue, G32 8DL

Tel/Fax 0141 641 4399

\*\*\*\*\*

**No. 4 Newsletter WINTER 2007**

The *Comboni Missionaries* are an international Congregation of over two thousand priests and brothers working in thirty-five countries throughout Europe, Africa, Asia and the Americas. Following in the footsteps of *Saint Daniel Comboni*, they bring the Good News of Christ to the most unfortunate and disadvantaged people in the South of our world.

**Registered Charity Number 220240**

## **DEAR READERS, FRIENDS AND BENEFACTORS.**

"Now in Scotland" - these were the words that came to my mind when I received my new appointment to work here in Scotland. I am sure that our God knows better than anyone else the reasons for this new destination in my missionary life and I will leave everything in His hands as I always have done.

Since I arrived in Scotland, I have realised how marvellous the Scots are, our friends around our community have been so friendly, so welcoming, so helpful, and so eager to let me know the wonders of this culture, with its great and deep sense of Family life. Even people whom I first met when I went to do some Mission appeals or supplies in our neighbouring Parishes have been so generous, so kind, so nice, that they have made me feel at home.

As soon as started my work in the office I was amazed by the number of letters that I received but above all for your generosity in your donations for the most needy and abandoned in the world and of course in your confidence and trust in our congregation in the canalizing of and in the management of donations. This fact really helps me to go deep in my personal prayer of gratitude to all of you and to ask Our Lord for your needs and intentions.

## **OUR COMMUNITY IN CARMYLE.**

We had a special guest, Fr. Ocen from the town of Gulu in Uganda. At the beginning of November our community spent a whole week in England for the annual assembly and visited the parish newly entrusted to us in Battersea, London. Meanwhile, they have been some little improvements to our house too. A Small new oratory has been created in our house with the curve wooden statues which we ready had, of St. Joseph, the Virgin Mary and the Sacred Heart. We have had double glaze sliding windows fixed in some rooms, that make our house more warm and eco-friendly. We are dealing with the continuing problem of people breaking into our house, or posing as bogus callers, looking for the donated money we received from you. The police have been very kind in assisting us. It is really upsetting to know that someone can even think of such conduct specially in taking advantage of the good faith of our elderly confreres. Any suggestions?.

Fr. Anthony thanks all of you who remembered him by his golden jubilee by prayer and gift and is sorry if he missed thanking you personally.

## **CALENDARS 2008**

The team (priests, nuns and friends) selling the calendars had started selling them on the last week of September and we have been to 20 parishes. We have covered almost all the parishes of the previous years. It has been, at least for me a very challenging experience. I would like to thank all of you who by mail have requested calendars and helped us in this activity. Without doubt the main goal in selling calendars is to animate the local Church and to invite more people to join us in this missionary task of the UNIVERSAL CHURCH towards the ones most in need. To all involved in this activity a BIG THANK YOU.

## **NOVEMBER- MONTH OF THE HOLY SOULS.**

We have celebrated the 30 Masses for the eternal rest of our deceased Benefactors and

the deceased relatives and friends of our living benefactors– a Mass each day as we promised you . The importance of offering the holy Eucharist for the eternal repose of our beloved ones is written in the Bible “It is therefore a holy and wholesome thought to pray for the dead that they may be loosed from their sins” (2 Mach. 12, 46) and the Catholic Church has always done this. I hope that for the next year more and more of you will join these prayers and offered this gift of 30 Masses for all our beloved ones who have passed away, as a sign of gratitude to them.

## **MISSIONARIES REPORT.**

### **1.-Letter from the Missions in Uganda.**

We have received a letter from Fr. Sean Dempsy and we quote part of it: “ *I am back in Uganda after 33 years ... Rushere Parish is huge, 3,500 square kilometres... We are very much a mixed bunch, an Italian, two Ugandans, one Rwandese, one Mexican and Myself. I am trying to learn the language... the people are mostly pastoral, the cattle have huge horns, and you dare not risk harming any as you drive along ... we are doing something but there is a great need for pastoral work... this letter is very scattered I am afraid. Excuse the mess. I remember you all so well and you are ever in my heart... good night and sleep with the Angels*”. (7-Nov-2007)

### **2.– Our Missionaries Expelled from Eritrea.**

On 15th November the Eritrean government expelled all foreign Missionaries and threatened to nationalize all schools and hospitals run by the Missionaries and religious congregations. Among those expelled four were Comboni Missionaries. Let us pray that for this country and for all our brothers and sisters who are going through this very difficult moment of their lives.

### **3. Projects for the Missions.**

This year with the money collected by the three offices (Leeds- England, Glasgow - Scotland And Dublin- Ireland) we were able to send donations to Peru (earthquake), Mexico (floods), and to help people in the Missions and the missionaries in more the 30 different projects: in South Sudan and North Sudan, North Brazil, Ethiopia, Uganda, Tanzania, Chad, Eritrea, etc... thank you to all of you who made this happen through your Prayers and donations. Any help that you have given is a sign of God’s love, God’s justice and peace, to those who received it. For all your support during this year, thank you very much and may Our Lord bless you with more and more.

## **A NEW FRIEND FOR THE MISSIONS: SPECIAL APPEAL .**

One might be tempted to think “**money again**” but it is not so this time- this appeal has the aim of inviting you: the new subscribers, and you who have helped us for so many years, to become co-missionaries with us , **So now I invite you all to look for a new friend for the Missions**, and this will be your gift to Jesus Christ at this time of Christmas and to the poorest in the world for the years to come . So if you know someone whom you think could be co-missionaries with us and if he/she is willing to accept, please fill in the NEW FRIEND FOR THE MISSIONS FORM that we are sending you and return it to us and we will contact the person named at the given address. Please remember the post- code.

## **OUR CHRISTMAS GIFT TO YOU :**

From the 15th to 23rd of December Our community of Comboni Missionaries in Glasgow will offer a **CHRISTMAS NOVENA** (Mass and prayers) for all our friends and benefactors in gratitude for your prayers and support. and for the NEW FRIENDS FOR THE MISSIONS.

**WE WISH YOU AND ALL YOUR PEOPLE HAPPY AND HOLY CHRISTMAS ASKING THE CHILD JESUS TO GIVE YOU EVERY GRACE AND BLESSING. MAY HIS MOTHER MARY AND St JOSEPH PRAY FOR YOU. A HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR.**

Visit Our Websites

[www.comboni glasgow.comboni youth.org.uk](http://www.comboni glasgow.comboni youth.org.uk) [www.comboni youth.org](http://www.comboni youth.org) [www.comboni.org](http://www.comboni.org)