
COMBONI MISSIONARIES *(Verona Fathers)*

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Dear Friend,

We Comboni Missionaries of Carmyle are happy to send you the summer issue of our magazine **COMBONI MISSION.**

It will reach you before the feast of the **SACRED HEART OF JESUS**, to whom our founder, the Blessed Daniel Comboni, entrusted all his missionary undertakings: his two new congregations of Priests/Brothers, and of Sisters and his huge Central African Vicariate.

In this letter I would like to quote something from his writings which can help each one of us to perceive the depth of his love and trust for the Sacred Heart of Jesus, the Good Shepherd, the one from whose pierced heart a river of Love was flowing out and regenerating all humankind and, of course, Daniel's beloved Africa for whom he gave his entire life until his death in Khartoum, Sudan, in October 1881.

"I am now able to tell you the date on which I will consecrate Central Africa to the Sacred Heart...This will be on the 14th September (1873), the feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross..." (Writings 3479).

"It pleased The Lord to inspire us to see that the surest way of achieving our desired end would be to gather ourselves, our faithful and the entire Vicariate Apostolic under the protection of the most Sacred and lovable Heart of Jesus". (Wri. 3322).

"...Yesterday everyone of the members of this holy mission thrilled with joy at the solemn consecration of the whole Vicariate to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. ...In this time of calamity...He has, in His infinite goodness, heard our prayers. (Wri. 3411)

"...I assure you that the work is well under way and that it will succeed, and many millions of souls will be converted. This will not be because all of us missionaries and sisters and workers are determined either to win or to die, but rather because the work is entrusted to the

**Blessed Daniel Comboni***Limone-Italy 1831**Khartoum-Sudan-1881*

Sacred Heart of Jesus, who burns for the whole Africa and will fill it with his divine fire” (Wri. 3211)

For Comboni the Heart of Jesus was the expression of the ultimate love of Jesus, the Good Shepherd, giving his life for the sheep.

Comboni himself followed Jesus’ footsteps closely and became, as well, a real and good shepherd like Jesus. The speech he gave in Khartoum on his return to Sudan (1873), before the consecration of the Vicariate to the sacred Heart, reveals his attitude of life:

“ Unfortunate Africa was the first love of my youth. I left behind what was dearest to me in the world and came to these lands sixteen years ago to offer my work for the relief of its centuries-old misfortunes. ...Then obedience called me home on account of my bad health...(Wri. 3156). I left in obedience, But my heart remained here among you and when, as it pleased God, I recovered, my every thought and step was for you. (Wri. 3157).

Today I come back to you at last and I regain my heart...I return among you, never again to cease to be yours and entirely consecrated to your greater good. Day and night, sun and rain will find me equally ready to help your spiritual needs. Rich and poor, healthy and sick, young and old, master and servant, shall always find admittance to my heart. Your good shall be mine, and your sufferings shall be mine too. I shall make common cause with every one of you, and the happiest of my days will be the one when I shall be able to give my life for you”. (Wri. 3158).

Comboni asks always for prayers: to Fr. F.J.Ramirez (S.J.) and his friends in Europe sharing his missionary concern and the spirituality of the Sacred Heart and praying for his Vicariate he wrote:

“You have greatly consoled and encouraged us by asking all the members of the Apostleship of prayer...to pray for Central Africa...All this made us so happy that we would be only too ready to give our blood and our life in a terrible martyrdom for the glory of the Sacred Heart. ...Here we are suffering, but praying for us to the Sacred Heart and thinking about us we have elect souls , the most fervent and holy souls in the world...Here , in this burning desert, we are happy to live in the Sacred Heart of Jesus and in the spirit of his most faithful friends...”. (Wri. 3477, 3478)

Poetry space:

FRIENDS

A true friend does'nt insult or condemn
 But stands by you through thick and thin.
 Will listen and guide you in the way which is best for you.
 A friends encourages and affirms all that is good in you,
 And yet tries to understand the weak points and limitations.
 Many people are more than willing to give each other advice,
 But you only truly listen to the voice of a friend, of a loved one.
 At times it is not necessary to say anything to each other,
 Just being there is sufficient.
 Love does'nt need words,
 it has a language all of its own which is universal.
 A friend is always there when you are feeling down or lonely.
 There are no pretensions with a friend,
 There is no threat to you or sense of vulnerability.
 You can relax and come and go in and out of each other lives
 With a friend.
 A friend is one who cares and whom you can share your life with.
 A friend is a person who helps you fulfil your own life.
 The road to a friend's house is never long !

By J. Murphy

MEMORIAL

One month has already passed since our dear **late Fr. Alan McGinty** departed from us, after his tragic accident. I would like to ask you all to carry on praying for him, for his family and for us Comboni Community of Carmyle. Jesus, the Risen Lord is our hope.

I also would like to apologize for the delay in our correspondence due to such sad circumstance and the difficulty in coping with it. I thank everyone of you for your understanding, support and prayer.

Friday 29th of June 2001 - at Carmyle COMBONI “OPEN DAY”

Together with the whole group of ‘*Lay Comboni Co-operators*’, on the last meeting held at Carmyle we planned for the “**COMBONI OPEN DAY**” which will take place at the Comboni Missionaries’ house, 138 Carmyle Avenue (Carmyle) GLASGOW. A committee was set up for the purpose.

As the title indicates, **this DAY is OPEN to everybody all over Scotland (and beyond...)** interested in the mission work of the Comboni Missionaries (Priest, Brothers, Sisters and Lay Combonis) all over the world, but with a particular attention to Africa.

The feast of the SACRED HEART OF JESUS is our patronal feast, though the date varies. It has always been a tradition to have it, but this time it has got also something new, both in the content and its organization. We hope for a good result leading to an even better improvement for “*Mission Awareness*” in the area of Glasgow and of the Whole of Scotland. It has been organised as follows:

- **Date:** **Friday 29th of June 2001** (*Feast of St. Peter and Paul*)

- **Venue:** **Carmyle Avenue / Comboni Missionaries**

- **Time:** **- 11 a.m - 4 p.m.** for **Youth, Parents and Children.**

(young children should be accompanied by an adult)

- It is particularly useful for children of Confirmation.

Program: - Fun-day, Display and Sharing,

Video / Slides on mission, Evangelisation,
Human promotion, Justice, War, Peace etc.

- 7 p.m. – 10 p.m. OPEN TO EVERYBODY

Program: Talk and Sharing on mission, **Holy Mass,**
Break, Raffle Draw, Buffet...

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How to reach Carmyle:

- **From Glasgow Central Station:**

= train for Whifflet (Carmyle is the 1st stop)

= Bus no. **64** (from Argyle St., under railway bridge)

- **From the Motorway: M74** Glasgow S.E. (South East)

Exit for **Cambuslang A763** (last but one exit)

Frs. Francis, Anthony, Charles, Sr. Aurora & Lay Co-operators