

E-BULLETIN #121

"Let the holiness of God shine forth" (cf. Mt 5, 16)

item 228

episcopal ordination of Bishop Bruno Ateba sac

On 17 May 2014, our confrere **Bruno Ateba Edo**, Regional Rector of the Most Holy Trinity Region of Cameroon - Nigeria was **ordained bishop of the diocese of Maroua - Mokolo** by His Excellency Msgr Piero Pioppo, Apostolic Nuncio to Cameroon and Equatorial Guinea. The beautiful liturgical celebration of the Episcopal Ordination, which lasted for 5 hours, with an outside temperature of about 40°C, was attended by the General Secretary of the President of Cameroon, the Cardinal of Douala, His Eminence Christian Wiyghan Tumi and about 20 bishops from all over Cameroon. Our Society was represented by the Rector General, Fr Jacob Nampudakam, the Provincial Rector of the Heart of Jesus Province, Fr Helmut Scharler, the Regional Rector of the Holy Family Region, Fr Romuald Uzabumwana and numerous confreres, sisters and lay members of the Union.

The diocese of Maroua - Mokolo was founded by the Congregation of Oblates of Mary Immaculate and lies in the north of Cameroon. It has about 50 ethnic groups present in its territory. The extreme climatic conditions, the poor economic situation and the recent violence perpetuated by a radical Islamic group make the pastoral work in this diocese quite difficult.



The Rector General, while expressing his gratitude to Pope Francis, recalled that the nomination of Msgr Bruno Ateba Edo as a bishop in Cameroon was a special gift to the Pallottines on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of the death of Msgr Heirich Vieter, founder of the Pallottine mission and the church in Cameroon. Regardless of the many challenges ahead for Msgr Bruno Ateba, he added, we must be happy to have responded to the invitation of the Holy Father "to go to the peripheries of human existence".

We wish our confrere-bishop prayerful support and a fruitful ministry as bishop of the diocese of Maroua - Mokolo.

courtesy Pallottine website: www.sac.info

a centre for “Eating and Learning”

“Wake up the world! Be witnesses of a different way of doing things, of acting, of living! It is possible to live differently in this world,” said Pope Francis while addressing a group of religious.

This is a challenge even more so for us as Pallottines. Just like Pallotti, who responded aptly to the crisis of his time, we Pallottines are called to respond creatively to the existing social evils of our time. Sensing a call to respond to the suffering of the poor and migrant children in Dortmund, Germany – mostly from the Muslim community – **Br Paul-Maiko Seibert sac** and **Fr Johannes Wilhelmi sac** came forward with a novel programme called “Eating and Learning”.



Dortmund is one of the biggest cities in Germany where a mix of people from many countries live. Naturally the migrants, and especially their children, face numerous problems with regard to education in the German language. In September 2012 the Pallottine community there started a project called “Eating and Learning”. They were given a hall by the nearby parish. Children mostly from poor and migrant backgrounds, and mostly from the Muslim community, came to this centre to do homework after school and receive free food.

The motto of this centre is “Eating and Learning”. It is totally free of charge. Br Maiko [above] cooks food for them. Children regard it is their second home because they not only learn to do homework but also play and thus mould their personalities. It is a place where they receive an all-round development. Br Maiko points out that initially parents had a problem in sending children because the centre was run by Christians. But once contact was established and its purpose explained, especially after the children themselves shared with their families about their experience, parents became very cooperative and friendly.

In the opening stage there were problems with finance but as days passed more and more people generously contributed towards the project. The local Diocese has now happily come forward to provide a permanent centre. It is renovating an existing building where the children presently learn, and this will soon be completed. In this way the Pallottine community, through some different thinking and alternative ministry, has woken up society in Dortmund city. Some residents have remarked to our confreres: “We have lived here for many years but never realised that we had such needy children in our midst. We are willing now to do whatever is possible”. Their neighbours, and other people who hear about this project, become very much supportive as they appreciate our efforts.



In this way these confreres, through daring to think, act and live differently, are creating a church that is very attractive and relevant to the local population, especially to children of different religions and cultures.

In conclusion I would suggest that such a different and creative apostolate may well inspire each one of us not to be satisfied with merely fulfilling our duties and responsibilities. But rather to go one step further in responding to the challenges posed by Pope Francis and our Founder – by thinking, acting, doing and living differently and thus becoming effective

witnesses in this challenging and complex world.

May the following wisdom of our beloved founder St Vincent Pallotti motivate and guide our actions: "Let there be few words and many deeds, and may they be done well".

Jerome Mariadhasan sac [BA] – Münster – GERMANY
02.04.14
jeromsac@gmail.com

sac asia oceania e-bulletin

you commented...

on #120 Number 120 of the Asia Oceania Bulletin contained valuable points for our reflection.

Br Richard Kley SAC, beyond doubt, lives his vocation as a Pallottine Brother with great dignity and inner joy. I did this interview with him personally in order to make this noble Brother known to the Pallottine world. There are many living saints in our midst!

The question posed by Ms Cheryl Sullivan is a pertinent one. The charismatic vision of St.Vincent cannot be limited to mere theological or juridical constructs - but must be lived out in reality in service of God's people. It must go beyond endless discussions and become flames of God's infinite love touching the lives of ordinary human beings. Caritas Christi urget nos!

JN 19.05.14

I welcome these newsletters – easy reading, informative and at the same causing me to ask myself questions....How do I dare to be different – dare to be a voice unspoken – dare to step outside the norms – dare to share ones inner voice – Actually on balance I reckon I do that daily in my work place! Formally and informally opening wider ways of thinking, understanding the world of adolescent boys and creating some bridge with their world and the Catholic Tradition and at the same time working with educators to gently create a new vision of what is possible. Day by day! Step by step!

JC 20.05.14

Greetings from Mathew at Mysore. I like the articles in this issue no.120 of E-Bulletin, especially the life testimony of Bro. Richard Kley in Germany, whom I know to be a very exemplary Pallottine. His life can inspire other Pallottines.

MK 20.05.14