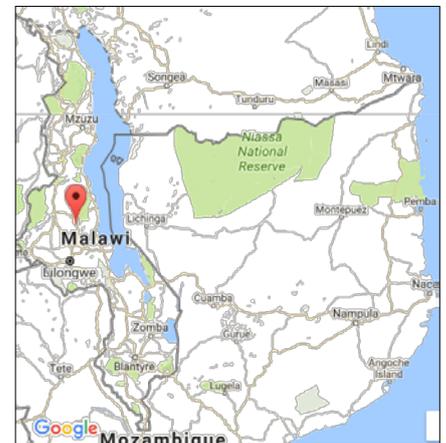


"Let the holiness of God shine forth" (cf. Mt 5, 16)

item 475

parish in Kaphatika

After 10 years of waiting a dream was finally realized with the official commencement of a Pallottine presence in Malawi. This was symbolised, on 08 Dec 2016, with the formal opening of St Vincent Pallotti parish, at Kaphatika in the **Lilongwe Archdiocese**. Providentially it coincided with the great feast of the Immaculate Conception.



It was an unforgettable event. All kinds of people were present at Kaphatika, a very small village in the Ntchisi District – the Archbishop of Lilongwe, priests, religious, lay Christians both Catholic and non-Catholic.

All were of one spirit in joy and of one voice as they sang, danced and thanked God that a parish was finally being created at Kaphatika. Archbishop Tarsizio G Ziyaye, who performed the opening, named it after St Vincent Pallotti. He blessed the foundation stone and declared the new entity to be under the future care of the Pallottine fathers and brothers.



Two Provincials were present - Fr Helmut Scharler sac, of the Sacred Heart of Jesus Province [Germany] and Fr Romuald Uzabumwana sac, of the Holy Family Province [Rwanda-Congo] .



In his address the Archbishop installed the two Pallottine priests who would be responsible – **Fr Ignancio Chipiko sac**, to be the parish priest and myself.

We then celebrated a Mass of thanksgiving. The liturgy was very thoroughly prepared and thus the celebration expressed the joy of the people. After Mass multiple speeches and gifts reflected that joy, as well as the people's determination to build their community to become as strong as other local communities:

- The Chief of Kaphatika village publicly acknowledged that the gift of land, from the village to the church, was irreversible. He declared that to give to the church is to give to God Himself and to fight against the church is to fight against God Himself. He urged the Catholics to care for this heavenly gift and called on all who might have abandoned the church – because of an absence of priests – to come back.
- In his speech Fr Helmut, the German Provincial, expressed the will of his Province to collaborate with the Archdiocese of Lilongwe to maintain this pastoral initiative in the spirit of St Pallotti.
- In conclusion the Archbishop stressed his desire that a spirit of unity be developed and maintained between the Pallottines and those responsible for the expansion of the pastoral life of his Archdiocese.



After the ceremonies and the sharing of the gifts from the earth, we visited a house intended to temporarily accommodate the priests of the parish before the completion of a new presbytery. However it was acknowledged that the house was not in good condition. On the morning of the following day the Archbishop and the two Provincials agreed to the priests being accommodated at the nearby Mpherere parish house before finding an alternative in good condition or building the Kaphatika presbytery.

Ildéphonse Bizimungu sac [SF] – Kaphatika – MALAWI
21.12.16
bizildephonse@gmail.com

Pallottines to have role in USCCB Convocation

This summer, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) will be convening an unprecedented gathering of key Catholic leaders from dioceses and organizations from all over the country. From July 1-4 in Orlando, Florida, clergy and lay leaders will come together to assess the pastoral challenges and opportunities of our time, particularly in the context of the Church in the United States

As a special opportunity for both clergy and lay leaders to reflect together on the church's mission of evangelization and the call of all Catholics to be missionary disciples, the Convocation is in keeping with the charism of St Vincent Pallotti, founder of the Society of the Catholic Apostolate, of which the Catholic Apostolate Center is a ministry. Pallotti, whose feast day is January 22nd, emphasized collaboration and co-responsibility among all the faithful for the Church's evangelizing mission.



Due to its unique mission, the Catholic Apostolate Center has been invited to participate in the Convocation and collaborate with the USCCB on several key elements:

- Fr Frank Donio sac, Director of the Catholic Apostolate Center, is speaking at the convocation at the invitation of the bishops' organizing committee.
- Fr Frank is a member of the program planning committee and is contributing to the development of the Program Guide Book, which will be used by all participants.
- Staff from the Center will be exhibiting at the Convocation, sharing resources and tools for pastoral leaders.
- The Center is a sponsor of the Convocation at the benefactor level.

The Convocation developed out of a call from the entire body of bishops in the United States to hold an event that would, "embrace the full vision of what it means to be Catholic and fully engaged in the Church's mission of evangelization and to proclaim the Church's vision of the human person." While the Convocation is invitation only, each bishop will have the opportunity to send a diocesan delegation. More information about this important event in the life of the Church in the United States can be found on the USCCB's website.

about the **Catholic Apostolate Center**

The **Catholic Apostolate Center** is a ministry of the Society of the Catholic Apostolate (Pallottines) - Immaculate Conception Province. It was founded in 2011 to respond to the needs of the Church through developing - in collaboration with dioceses and other institutions and organizations - formation programs for the New Evangelization; assisting pastoral leaders in deepening collaboration with one another; and providing formation opportunities for members and collaborators of the Union of Catholic Apostolate.

The Center takes its inspiration from the spirituality of St Vincent Pallotti and achieves its goals through hosting conferences, seminars, webinars, and presentations as well as providing online and print resources.

Chris Pierno – Washington – USA
17.01.17
chris.pierno@catholicapostolatecenter.org

you commented...

on #244 Many thanks... for highlighting through Asia-Oceania bulletin that Taiwan Church is indeed a gateway to underground Church in China. It is also great to know that four priests of ABVM province are already engaged in pastoral work in Taiwan mission.

VP 08.01.17

It was good to be reminded of the Church in Taiwan and the priests who are working there.

MG 14.01.17