

# **CIRCULAR LETTER**

**05<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER,2016**

FROM: J. A. RYAN, THE BISHOP OF MZUZU DIOCESE

TO: ALL COMMUNITIES, MZUZU DIOCESE

Dear Fathers, Brothers and Sisters,

Greetings from the White Fathers Residence in Cologne in Germany. Once again, I am very thankful and grateful to you for the 'Trojan work' in the preparation for the great event we had in the diocese on 27<sup>th</sup> August, 2016 as you welcomed me as the Bishop of Mzuzu Diocese. Let the spirit displayed in those preparations continue to direct our efforts as we continue with the ministry of God.

I would like to inform you of the following appointments in Mzuzu Diocese:

## **1. APPOINTMENTS**

<b>POSITION</b>	<b>PRIEST</b>	<b>PLACE</b>
Vicar General (V.G)	Fr Andrew Aubrey Chunda	Katoto Residence
Finance, Investment and Administration Officer (FIAO)	Fr Tony Kapingiri Mfuno	Katoto Residence
Pastoral Secretary (PS)	Fr Edmond Nyoka	Katoto Residence
Parish Priest	Fr Felix Mailosi Phiri	St Peter's Cathedral
Parish Priest	Fr Phillip Nkwinka	St John's Parish
Parochial Vicar (curate)	Fr Isaiah Nyirenda	St John's Parish
Parish Priest	Fr Isaac John Katumbi	Holy Cross Parish
Parochial Vicar (curate)	Fr Raymond Walinase Kondowe	Holy Cross Parish

The team at Katoto will assist for Sunday Masses in parishes in Mzuzu whenever possible.

## **2 DCOP MEMBERS**

In the month of October deaneries will have their meetings. Please suggest 2 (two) DCOP members as your deanery representatives. The members suggested together with ex-officio members and the bishop will form the Diocesan Council of Priest.

## **3 FOOD ASSISTANCE TO ST PATRICK'S SEMINARY**

May I appeal to all parishes to contribute 4 bags of maize (50kg) or its equivalent in monetary form to alleviate the food situation. I thank you for your usual assistance. Apart from the above mentioned items, feel welcome to add other items which you feel may assist our seminarians.

#### **4 ACCOUNTABILITY**

In our meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> August, 2016, the issue of ACCOUNTABILITY featured highly. The issue resurfaced during parish pastoral visits. It is also surfacing here in Germany. Yesterday, during my first day here, I visited two partners, 1) Rottenburg Diocese and 2) Cologne Archdiocese ----both have told me that Mzuzu Diocese has projects which have not yet submitted reports which are long overdue and without these final reports, Mzuzu Diocese cannot access further funding. But if we resolve these issues doors will be opened. We need a change of mindset on this issue at all levels. I appeal to all to ensure that there is only one reporting system in the parish that can be traced from small Christian communities to Substation level, proceeding to Outstations, Zones up to the Parish Centre. Parish Finance Committees will receive proper induction and should make sure that there is transparency and accountability at all levels. The FIAO and his team will make follow up visits to monitor the situation.

#### **5 FEASIBILITY STUDIES TO ESTABLISH NEW PARISHES**

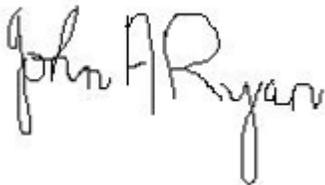
A team consisting of the *Vicar General (VG)*; *Finance, Investment and Administration Officer (FIAO)* and the *Pastoral Secretary (PS)* will visit Embangweni in Mzimba, Kabulufu in Rumphu and Kasitu in Nkhata-Bay to determine the feasibility of establishing a parish in each of these places and advise the bishop on how to proceed. Among the stakeholders to be involved are traditional leaders, parish council leaders, local church leaders and priests and sisters.

#### **6 NEWLY APPOINTED PRIESTS**

I would like to inform the newly appointed priests to take their new offices by the 22<sup>nd</sup> of October. As the practice has been, prepare handovers which include financial statements that are reflective of the bank statements. Only written handovers signed by the finance team will suffice the smooth process of passing on the authority to the incoming team.

Wishing you all the best.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John A. Ryan". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

+ Right Rev. J. A. Ryan

**THE BISHOP OF MZUZU DIOCESE**