

# HA-MEBASSER

MESSANGER  
OF GOOD NEWS

NEWSLETTER  
CMF General Prefecture  
of YVM

## CLARETIAN YOUTH AND VOCATIONS MINISTRY AS A PROCESS OF TRANSFORMATION:

LIKE THE PARABLE OF THE  
SEED THAT GROWS BY  
ITSELF.



Photo of the Claretian YVM of the DRC



**01** THE CLARETIAN ROUTE IN  
CUBA  
Michelet M. J. Cassamajor CMF

**02** PASTORAL CLARET-  
ASKARTZA UNIVERSITY  
STUDENTS  
José Luis Ortiz de Guinea CMF

**03** CLARET WAY MEETINGS IN  
CHENNAI  
Thomas S. CMF

**04** CLARET WAY CAMP IN  
CLARETIAN FAMILY IN DRC  
Perry Fanafio, Odette Itaza y  
Georges G. Mondo CMF

**05** CLARET WAY MEETING IN  
ZIMBABWE  
Nyasha Choga CMF

**06** VOCATION STORIES  
Rojas Alveenias CMF

Ha-Mebasser 2025/01



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## **PRAYER OF GRATITUDE**

Good Father, God of tenderness and mercy,  
we thank you for the seed of your Word,  
sown with love by your friends,  
grows and takes root in the hearts of young people,  
transforming their lives.

Thank you because in them it begets new life,  
fills with meaning and opens up horizons,  
illuminating their quests with hope.

Your Word, living and effective,  
inspires them to respond generously,  
bearing fruit in works of service  
that build fraternity  
and promote just causes.

Thank you for moving their hearts  
to take care of the common home,  
reflecting your creative love.

Keep them company, good God,  
with your Spirit of Life so that they may be  
courageous witnesses of your Kingdom,  
bearers of light and hope for our world.

Amen.



# CLARETIAN YOUTH AND VOCATIONS MINISTRY AS A PROCESS OF TRANSFORMATION:

## LIKE THE PARABLE OF THE SEED THAT GROWS BY ITSELF

Carlos Verga CMF



Thinking, organising and carrying out the Claretian pastoral work with youth and vocations as a process of shared mission, saving the differences, reminds me of the parable of the seed that grows without us knowing how.

Mark is the only evangelist who narrates this teaching of Jesus about the Kingdom of God (4, 26-29). In it, a man sows a seed and, without his knowing how, the seed germinates and grows until the harvest. The growth is a pure gift of the mystery of God at work in the depths of the earth. The seed grows autonomously, independently of the intervention of the farmer. The power that transforms it comes from within itself... it was contained in it. The sower trusts in this and therefore works the soil and sows it.

From this point of view, I let myself be surprised by what germinates in our communities when we share the seed of the Good News of Jesus with young people. It transforms our pastoral practices and transforms hearts in a mysterious way. God is at work in the world, in our lives and in our communities... it is perceptible only when it begins to germinate and it never ceases to surprise because, although we know how it has begun, we do not fully understand how it happens nor can we control its growth.

Contemplating what is growing fills us with joy and hope, which is why we share it. And we are also grateful for the sowing of those who bet every day, the patience of those who trust in young people and sow, the tenacity of those who share their time with them and recognise that human and spiritual growth, like the manifestation of the Kingdom, requires time.



The articles we share in Ha-Mebasser give an account of our collaboration in this sowing in the different continents. We are called to be active collaborators in the divine mission, trusting that God will make our efforts bear fruit at the right time. The lesson of Jesus teaches us these three keys for Claretian ministry with youth and vocations:

(1) trust in the power of the Word of God that we share with them;

(2) patience to wait in the process of growth;

and (3) our active collaboration to sow in the hearts of young people seeds of new life, seeds of the Kingdom.

Ranchi (India)

January 2025

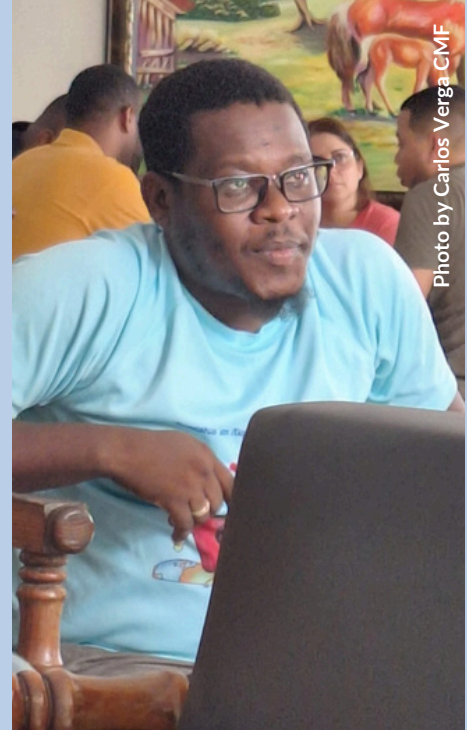
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# THE CLARETIAN ROUTE IN CUBA 2024

Joseph Cassamajor Michelet cmf



## INTRODUCTION

The Claretian Route 2024 has been a spiritual and cultural experience that allowed the pilgrims to immerse themselves in the legacy of St. Anthony Mary Claret in Cuba. This journey not only revived the mark left by the saint during his mission as bishop of Santiago (1851- 1857), but also connected the participants with the needs and richness of the Cuban people today. The journey was an invitation to personal reflection, spiritual renewal and missionary commitment, marking a milestone in Claretian spirituality.

## CHRONICLE OF KEY EVENTS

### 1. Santiago de Cuba and Guantánamo: The beginning of the pilgrimage

The adventure began in Santiago de Cuba, in the Parish of the Holy Trinity and the Cultural Centre for Missionary Animation, St. Anthony Mary Claret. Here, the pilgrims were introduced to the Cuban reality, marking the beginning of a journey in which they would follow in the living footsteps of the saint.

They then moved on to Guantánamo, where the local culture welcomed them with Changüi music and a display of the hospitable character of the Cubans. Among the highlights was a visit to the chapel of St. Anselm in Tiguabos, a place where Claret spent days administering sacraments and visiting the sick. In addition, they explored the cathedral of St. Catherine of Ricci and enjoyed moments of fraternity with the local community.

### 2. Celebration in Baracoa: The anniversary of the Congregation

1. On July 16, the anniversary of the foundation of the Claretian Missionaries, the pilgrims went to Baracoa, the first church of the diocese of Santiago. Along the way, they reflected on the legacy of Claret and his



commitment to the peripheries, a value that is still valid after 175 years.

The visit included a tour of the Church of Our Lady of the Assumption, where Claret preached and gave catechesis. Later, at the Jojo River, a place the saint crossed many times, there was a moment of integration and joy, with local fruits and a space for evangelisation. The day ended with a fraternal dinner in Guantánamo.

### 3. Santiago de Cuba: History and devotion

In Santiago, the pilgrims crossed the Holy Door of the cathedral, remembering the 500 years of the archdiocese, and explored the initiatives that Claret led during his time as bishop, from the reorganisation of the clergy to his attention to those affected by earthquakes and epidemics. They also visited the foundational house of the Claretian Sisters and the Shrine of the Virgin of Charity of Cobre where they celebrated an emotional Eucharist.



Photos of Antillas' Claretian YVM



Photos of Antillas' Claretian YVM

### 4. Holguín: A testimony of faith and sacrifice

The city of Holguín marked a point of special significance, as it was there that Claret suffered an attack while defending the truth. In the cathedral, the group reflected on the saint's sacrifice and his example of courage. In addition, they toured Gibara, a port used by Claret on his missionary journeys, where they shared a simple lunch and enjoyed a moment by the sea.

### 5. Camagüey and La Habana: Closing the journey

In Camagüey, the pilgrims visited the



Church of La Merced, a significant place in Claret's life, and celebrated the Eucharist, reflecting on mercy and human dignity. Finally, the journey concluded in Havana, where the Claretian community received the pilgrims to close this unforgettable experience

## FINAL REFLECTION

The Claretian Route has left an indelible mark on its participants. Its route is more than a journey: it is a call to revive the Claretian charism, to drink from the spiritual source and to commit oneself to the peripheries.

The experience, marked by the sacrifice and love of Claret, invites all Claretian missionaries to continue leaving living footprints, carrying the Gospel with courage and hope, especially in challenging contexts such as Cuba.

Santiago (Cuba)

January 2025

Santiago (Cuba)

Enero de 2025.



Photos of Antillas' Claretian YVM





# PASTORAL CLARET-ASKARTZA UNIVERSITY STUDENTS

José Luis Ortiz de Guinea CMF

The pastoral service to the older youth has always been part of the overall pastoral project of the school since 1980. From the beginning of this project, the central objective was the Christian community inserted in the

local and universal church. For this reason, the university stage has been given special attention in all the pastoral plans and programmes for each academic year.

Within this stage we distinguish the time of Christian Initiation, lasting three to four years, at the end of which the young people received the sacrament of Confirmation, as a sign and moment of maturing in faith and missionary commitment and solidarity. The sacrament has never meant an end, but a step forward. The second moment of this process is the young Christian community called "Gospel and Solidarity Community" (CES). It is the time of foundation of the previous stage and of knowledge and experience of what the small Christian community is according to the Claretian charism. For this reason, encounters with the adult communities of Lay Claretians (CESSC) are favoured during this time. There is no hurry to make early decisions, given that the final stage of the career and the incorporation or insertion into the world of work, social, cultural, relational and affective life presents the young person with many challenges, which require attention to situate him/herself before the new experiences and to discern options, steps to take and commitments.

The accompaniment, the formation, the relationship with the adult CESSC communities help to personalise the Christian option that each one has discerned. Most of them opt for the Lay Claretian Christian community and they express and confirm it through the celebratory act



of joining the communities of Lay Claretians: Community-Gospel and Lay Claretian Solidarity.

The pastoral project of Claret Askartza from the early eighties was inspired by the great options of the Claretian charism and the ideology of the Claretian laity. It was the young people themselves who defined our university project as "community, gospel and solidarity". And at Easter and Pentecost we made official the Ideology of these communities, still in force and a reference of the current pastoral.

The introduction of Oratory Practice in the school in 2000 has greatly enhanced the cultivation of explicit religious experience among the pupils. It is offered to all pupils from infants, and is free from the first year of Secondary School (12 years) onwards. A large number of pupils continue to participate until the end of their time at school. This has made it advisable, for some years now, to offer the celebration of the sacrament of confirmation at the end of the second year of baccalaureate.

Concrete activities during the year: the prayer and weekly meeting every Friday; the evangelisation of the youngest (12-18 year old) on Fridays as well, prior to their meeting ;Participation in the celebration of the Sunday Eucharist with the Christian community in the school church, two weekend convivences during the school year, the celebration of Easter, camp monitors and summer activities, Camino de Santiago in alternate years, Missionary experience in Bolivia and India, work camp in Claret Enea and participation in the campaigns that are held during the year



Photo of the Claretian YVM of Sanctus Paulus





outside school time (Peace, Solidarity-Rastrillo, Peoples of the South) and in initiatives from the diocese or other NGOs.

Challenges? The plurality of offers that, in particular, reach them through the networks occupy a lot of time, external and internal. It is not only external, but also absorbed attention. They have the feeling that they have no time for anything. They don't find time for a moment of silence, for a bit of prayer. The mobile phone takes up all the space in between. Although they are well aware of it, they are losing the ability to free themselves. It is not strange that one of the things they value most in the oratory is that it is a quiet, relaxed time to think about their things and to listen... how can religious experience be born and grow in this context?

A certain resistance to commitment, to committing to something even for a short period of time, because they have several points of interest at hand. To arrange a meeting to prepare...? The common answer is often "I'll see if I can". This makes it very difficult for there to be an "inner process of growth, of maturing in faith and in the important values of the Gospel". This makes it very difficult, in these socio-cultural contexts, to do explicit Christian vocational pastoral work, especially religious vocational pastoral work. The word is used, its content has been domesticated and

watered down. They are in a hurry to say "I already know what my vocation is". It is no more a defensive phrase than a real approach.

From our side they need closeness, presence, accompaniment ... to listen to them. Testimony of life, a lot of patience and perseverance. Never give up. To be close adults, but not to stop being adults. Learning from them to see what they see and sense. Understanding their weaknesses and our own. Trust in their strengths, they have them. New language and new ways of communicating, but



Photo of the Claretian YVM of Sanctus Paulus





not just words. And if we are experts in communication through the networks, let us not get lost in them, let them serve to communicate the proclamation of Jesus Christ in a way that is more appropriate to their way of receiving it. I emphasise accompanying them in seeing and seeking the true.

Why is it important for Claretians with young people over 18? For all the above reasons. They are the bearers of the new world, or rather, that the world be "new". The same must be said of the Church, of the faith, they will be the renovators of the Church and that it will continue to be a witness of the Gospel and a presence of its values. To raise up evangelising missionaries is our vocation. And that age, between 20-30 years old, decides who they are and who they will be. Their being, their value and what they do.

Bilbao (Spain)  
October 2024



Photo of the Claretian YVM of Sanctus Paulus



# CLARET WAY MEETINGS IN CHENNAI PROVINCE

Thomas S. CMF

## CLARET WAY SEMINAR AND YOUTH PROGRAMME INSPIRE YOUNG MINDS

The Claretian communities of St. Anthony Mary Claret Church and St. Joseph Church experienced two remarkable events in January 2025, aimed at inspiring young people to deepen their faith, embrace social responsibility and actively engage in their spiritual and social roles. These encounters provided a platform for meaningful reflection, vibrant discussions and practical activities, fostering individual and collective growth of the participants.

On January 12, the Claret Way full-day youth seminar was held at St. Anthony Mary Claret Church, which attracted a large and enthusiastic audience. A. Ingasimuthu CMF, parish priest, who warmly welcomed the participants and set the tone for a transformative experience. Fr. V. Michel Francis CMF, Prefect of Apostolate, delivered a thought-provoking keynote address based

on Pope Francis' Christus Vivit. He invited the young people to see themselves as vital members of the Church and to draw inspiration from biblical figures whose lives were marked by courage, faith and service. His words encouraged the participants to reflect deeply on their personal vocations and the wider mission of the Claretian family.

Fr. S. Thomas CMF followed with a comprehensive explanation of the Claret Way initiative, a global Claretian project designed to bring young people together in a shared mission of faith and service. He highlighted how this initiative provides opportunities for young people to grow spiritually, actively contribute to their communities and build meaningful relationships with other Claretians around the world.

The seminar took a practical turn



Photo by Thomas S. CMF







Photo of Chennai's Claretian YVM

with an interactive session led by Fr. Kulandai Yesu Rajan CMF, who addressed the critical issue of addiction. Using creative methods such as group dynamics, action songs and engaging discussions, Fr Rajan informed the participants about the ill effects of addiction and provided them with tools to face the challenges of modern life. His session was a mix of fun, insight and practical advice, and left a lasting impression on the young people.

To add a personal touch, Mr. Amal Raj, a Youth Ministry volunteer, shared his own journey of faith and self-discovery. His heartfelt testimony resonated deeply with the participants, encouraging them to reflect on their life goals and to embrace discernment as the key to a meaningful life. The day concluded with an evaluation session in which the participants expressed their gratitude and shared their conclusions. The seminar left an indelible mark on all those present, reaffirming their

commitment to the Claretian faith, community and mission.

A few days later, on 15 January, the Claret Way Youth Programme brought together 30 vibrant young minds at St Joseph's Church in Irendellaiparai, Dindigul. The programme was designed to foster social responsibility, teamwork and personal growth among the youth. The day began with a warm welcome by Fr. S. Thomas CMF, who emphasised the overall objective of the Claret Way: to empower young people to play an active role in the development of society and in the activities of the Church.

M. Thomas CMF and the Prefect of Formation, Fr. Stanislaus CMF, reinforced this message with inspiring talks. Fr Stanislaus



Photo of Chennai's Claretian YVM





challenged the participants to take up their role as leaders and agents of change in their communities, highlighting the need for proactive and compassionate engagement with the world around them.

In the morning session, Fr Philip Sudakar, Youth Director of the Diocese of Dindigul, facilitated a series of games and team building activities. These exercises not only brought energy and joy to the group, but also encouraged the young people to reflect on their goals and the values they wish to uphold. Fr Sudakar ably guided the participants in recognising their unique talents and the importance of collaboration to achieve personal and collective aspirations.

The afternoon session, led by Fr. Albert SDB, focused on "Youth and Responsibilities". His dynamic presentation invited participants to reflect critically on their role in the Church and society. He encouraged them to recognise the power of their choices and actions, and to see themselves as vital contributors to a better future.

Throughout the day, the young people showed enthusiasm and active participation, making the programme very interactive and impactful. The event concluded with reflections from the participants, who expressed a renewed sense of purpose, gratitude and a deeper connection to their faith.



Photo of Chennai's Claretian YVM





Together, the Claret Way Youth Seminar and the Youth Programme showcased the strength and vitality of Claretian youth. These initiatives not only equipped young people with practical tools for personal and spiritual growth, but also inspired them to embrace their identities as agents of change. Both events highlighted the importance of fostering community, deepening faith and encouraging young people to contribute meaningfully to the Church and society.

Dindigul (India)  
January 2025



Photo of Chennai's Claretian YVM



Photo of Chennai's Claretian YVM



# CAMP CLARET IN CLARETIAN FAMILY IN THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO



Perry Fanafio, Odette Itaza y Georges G. Mondo CMF

## CHRONICLE OF CAMP CLARET 2024 IN THE CONGO

The Prefecture of Youth and Vocation Ministry of the Claretian Missionaries in Congo organised the second edition of Camp Claret from 26 to 30 December 2024, in the coastal city of Moanda. This encounter gathered 60 people coming from the Claretian parishes and institutions of Kinshasa, among them Claretian missionaries, Religious Sisters of Mary Immaculate and lay people. Under the motto "We are Claret-Way", the camp became a space of fraternity, formation and shared spirituality.

## ARRIVAL AND WELCOME

The delegation left Kinshasa in the early hours of 26 December and arrived in Moanda in the evening, being received with hospitality at the Lycée Mbuete ya Mbu, located in the Parish of Our Lady of Grace. Alain N'Goga, cmf, the participants were distributed to their accommodation. The day concluded with a prayer of gratitude and a special dedication to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, in an atmosphere of recollection and hope.

## ENCOUNTERS WITH FAITH AND SERVICE

The first full day began with the celebration of the Eucharist, presided over by the local parish priest, followed by community activities such as cleaning the assigned spaces. During the day, participants had the opportunity to take a guided tour of the Shrine of Our Lady of Grace, the oldest church in Congo and an emblem







of missionary history in Central Africa. This temple, built in 1884, has been a place of pilgrimage and spiritual encounter, enriched by the presence of the Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima, inaugurated in 2014.

In the afternoon session, Fr. Alain N'Goga, cmf, reflected on the meaning of the motto of the camp: "We are Claret-Way", highlighting the importance of walking together as a missionary family. In this space, the global connection of the young people who share the Claretian charism was underlined, seeking to renew their commitment to the Gospel and to face the current challenges with passion and self-denial.

### COMPREHENSIVE TRAINING

The second day was dedicated to leadership and entrepreneurship training, with a lecture by Jigyel Mahusu, a local entrepreneur. In his presentation, he highlighted the importance of management and administration skills under SMART ("Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant and Time-bound") criteria, encouraging young people to develop viable and sustainable projects. Subsequently, the participants organised themselves into working groups to reflect on key questions: How to solve social problems, what conditions are necessary to create a business in their

environment, what are the conditions to create a business in their environment, what are the conditions to create a business in their environment, and what are the conditions to create a business in their environment. This exercise encouraged creativity and the search for solutions adapted to their contexts.

In the afternoon, the young people attended a solemn Eucharist presided by Mgr. José-Claude Mbimbi, Bishop of Boma, in the framework of the opening of the Jubilee of the Universal Church for 2025, with the motto "Pilgrims of Hope". This liturgical moment reinforced the commitment of the participants to the evangelising mission and their Claretian identity.

### FRATERNITY AND COMMITMENT

The third day combined moments of reflection and recreation. The morning sessions included individual confessions and workshops on family values inspired by the Holy Family. Fr Alain N'Goga emphasised the



Photo of Claretian YVM, DRC

importance of obedience, providence and the protection of life as essential pillars to face social challenges from a Christian perspective.

In the afternoon, the participants shared the fruit of their reflections in groups, highlighting the importance of active listening and acceptance of differences as a basis for synodality. The day ended with a walk on the beach and a recreational evening that strengthened the bonds of fraternity and joy.

## CONCLUSION AND DISPATCH

On the last day, the Sunday Eucharist was the centre of the activities, presided by Fr. Alain

N'Goga, who encouraged the participants to be light in their communities and to live as authentic pilgrims of hope. At the closing of the camp, deep gratitude was expressed to God and to the Virgin Mary for the experience lived, which marked all those present as a true Claretian family.

Camp Claret 2024 was not only a spiritual meeting, but also a space for learning and commitment. The participants returned home with a renewed missionary spirit, inspired by the charism of St. Anthony Mary Claret and looking forward to the challenges of the future.

Kinshasa (RDC)  
Enero de 2025.



Photo of Claretian YVM, DRC





# CLARET WAY MEETING IN ZIMBABWE MISSION

Ruth Rudorwashe Dimingo

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## WE DISCOVERED THE WAY AND WE WALKED IT IN THE CLARETIAN STYLE

From 18 to 22 December, the Claretian Youth and Vocation Ministry of Zimbabwe Mission hosted the third edition of the Claret Way Congress at Zhomba Parish, St. Claret Chiutsi Primary School campus. The event transformed moments into memories, verses into chapters and smoke into flames, culminating in a heartfelt shout: "Long live Claret Way, long live!". Despite facing numerous challenges that have reduced their hopes to ashes, Zimbabwe's young people showed that embers still burn within those ashes, embers that turned to flames as they prayed, worked and celebrated together.

One participant eloquently described the Claret Way as "hot coals; once you step on it, your heart will burn Claretian style, no matter how far or fast you run". I responded with a Shona proverb: "It is a small fire that will burn big trees along the way".

## PILGRIMS OF HOPE THROUGH WORK AND PRAYER

The Congress focused on the theme of being "Pilgrims of Hope" through prayer and work. It began by defining the Claret Way and tracing its global origins and its establishment within the Zimbabwe Claretian Mission. Emphasising heroism in prayer, work and celebration, the Congress invited young people to become protagonists in their faith journey. The verse accompanying the theme perfectly combined the words of Jesus, the Master, and St. Claret, the mystical man of action: "When you pray..." (Lk 11:2), followed by Claret's exhortation: "Pray heroically". This exhortation was intended to inspire hope, emphasising that hope does not disappoint, but must be nourished by prayerful work.





Photo of the Claretian YVM of Zimbabwe

The young people reflected on *Christus Vivit*, embracing their daily vocation to be "God's Now" in words, deeds and actions. They were reminded to feel with the Church and exhorted to become "saints next door", echoing Pope Francis' call in *Gaudete et Exsultate*. The martyrdom of the young martyrs of Barbastro served as

a poignant reminder that the faith they often take for granted was defended with the ultimate sacrifice by others their age. The challenge was clear: to become saints within their own age and context.

## NOURISHING FAITH AND BUILDING FRATERNITY

Representing God in today's world requires young people to be nourished by the Word of God, touched by Christ in the Eucharist and evangelised through missionary work, especially serving the marginalised. Prayer and active liturgical participation further nurture this representation.

The Congress also stressed the importance of good communication: with oneself, with God and with others. Participants were urged to speak the truth with kindness, to listen with love and to engage in a spirit of fraternity. Lack of communication, which often leads to conflicts, frustrations and addictions, was identified as a misrepresentation of God.

On the contrary, young people with synodal hope become a visible "God's Now".

## A CALL FOR HEROISM IN UNITY

Many participants expressed their deep appreciation for the gathering, recognising the beauty of the Claret Way network. In a world



Photo of the Claretian YVM of Zimbabwe





consumed by individualism, taking time to gather in the name of the Lord is truly a heroic act. The Congress encouraged young people to stop quantifying quality time and to sanctify their time by bringing good news to the Church. They were reminded of their call to know, love, serve and praise God.

## **DREAMS, DESIGNS AND COMMITMENTS**

One of the key activities of the Congress was the spiritual conversations that culminated in the elaboration of dreams, designs and commitments for the Claret Way in Zimbabwe from 2025 to 2027. Among the new developments was the suggestion that the network embark on ongoing formation. The Congress also saw the election of new executive members, with Rudorwashe Ruth Dimingo assuming the presidency. To evangelise affectivity, the coordinator's award was given for the first time to two couples. In addition, a sports day emphasised team building and mutual support.

## **ANCHORED IN PRAYER AND CELEBRATION**

The formation sessions were interspersed with times of adoration, lectio divina and rosary. The Congress began with a solemn opening mass, invoking God's grace to sow seeds of life in the hearts of young people. It concluded with a vibrant closing mass filled with songs of gratitude. Through these moments, the Claret Way Congress 2024 became a beacon of hope, inspiring young people to be bearers of light in a world yearning for faith, love and unity.

Harare (Zimbabwe)  
January 2025



Photo of the Claretian YVM of Zimbabwe



# VOCATION STORIES

## MY VOCATIONAL EXPERIENCE AS A CLARETIAN MISSIONARY BROTHER

Rojes Alveenass CMF



*"For the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart" - 1 Sam 16:7*

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ Jesus, I am delighted to share with you my vocational story and experience as a Claretian religious brother.

At first of all, I thank the Almighty for the gift of life and vocation in this Missionary Congregation. God called me to this Congregation in a mysterious way. I was not a church-going person or an interested religious. I was on my way working, studying and taking care of my family. My mother struggled a lot to educate and raise us because of my family's economic situation. In short, I went through all kinds of crises and bitter moments since my childhood. Now what was bitter in the past has turned into blessings in the present. Thanks to God.

Although I had a desire to become a priest, I never thought of becoming a Claretian or joining the Claretians. With many struggles and confusions, I entered the Congregation. There were a quiet number of times I wanted to leave the seminary because of some perennial family problems. But God did not allow it. He had a hidden plan for me. During my formation period, especially during the novitiate, I felt a call: "The desire to become a Permanent Religious Brother". Knowing the fact that Religious Brothers are not recognised or appreciated by the people in Asia, I gradually became convinced of my calling to be a Permanent Religious Brother. Although at times I had doubts and confusions regarding my decision, God directed me according to His mysterious plan through various people and events. I finally became a full member of the Congregation when I professed my final commitment wholeheartedly.





My life as a religious missionary brother is joyful and exciting. Many people rejoice in my vocation and encourage me, although some discourage me by pointing out ministries that only priests can do. But I, as a religious brother, have never been concerned about what is beyond my vocation. I only do what I can and am assigned to do, what brings me happiness and satisfaction. At the same time, I try to learn many other things so that my ministry is timely, effective and efficient. There are many ministries that a permanent brother can do. But the one thing he must know is that he must be convinced of the beauty of this vocation. For me, the beauty of this vocation is to be a witness of Jesus not by preaching, but by life: a living witness of the love of Jesus.

In conclusion, I would like to say that it is not I but God who called me to this way of life. I simply gave my life to be guided by his life and his love.

Jaffna (Sri Lanka)

January 2025

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