



DEACONATE AND PRIESTLY ORDINATIONS: MVOLYE, 27TH JUNE 2015

A special gift of prophecy was not necessarily needed for anyone who passed by the holy hill of Mvolyé as early as 7 am on Saturday 27th June 2015 to realize that a major event was to take place at the Basilica of Our Lady Queen of the Apostles. The atmosphere was filled with numerous cars and the uncommon crowd made up of priest, religious men and women, the laity, photographers, media and even those present for economic reasons. Indeed something great happened. The Universal Church was blessed as the Lord called and sent fifty one laborers into His vineyard. Forty deacons and eleven priests from various religious congregations and societies of apostolic life were ordained by His Lordship Faustin Ambassa Ndjodo, bishop of Batouri during the Holy Mass, which started as early as 9 am. As the Church is one and Universal, one among the eleven elect was from the diocese of Bafia.

In a special way, it was a day of grace and happiness for the Society of the Catholic Apostolate in general and particularly for the Holy Trinity Region Cameroon-Nigeria. The entire Pallottine family felt even a greater joy as six of our brothers were ordained deacons and four as priests. The presence of Fr François Harerimana, General Counsultant in charge of formation was a clear indicator of how serious the events were. Among the ordained as deacons were Rev. Marcel Fopoussi, Rev. Etienne-Fils Ebassa Ebassa, Rev. Luc Armand Atangana Mekongo. Rev. Joseph Désiré Bounoungou Bela, Rev. Marcelin Nlend Ade and Rev. Marc Axel Kounou Anyouzoa. The Society was also blessed and enriched with four members who were ordained as priests in the persons of: Fr Patrice Dieudonné Ateba Bende, Fr Francis Christian Medou; Fr Guy Désiré Nidha Dikelel and Fr Daniel Eric Mebara.

After Holy Mass, Pallotti's House was the next center of attraction. We were all gathered around His Lordship Faustin Ambassa, the Regional Superior, Fr Jules Nkodo and the newly ordained together with families, friends and well-wishers to share the banquet prepared in honor of those ordained. The feast continued till later in the evening for some and for others the activity was still going on. It was at 6 30 pm that the great feast was brought to an end with solemn vespers and benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament which was led by the newly ordained priests and deacons. It was a moment of prayer, thanksgiving and blessing for everyone as the newly ordained priest laid hand on everyone in silence and prayer.

We give thanks to Almighty God for the gift of this day especially for its success and we pray that he continues to send laborers into his vineyard not only in quantity but also in quality for his glory and for the sanctification of our souls and the souls of our neighbors. Amen

CHI Nelvine SAC