

**CLARETIAN MISSIONARIES**  
**East Nigeria Province**

**VIII PROVINCIAL CHAPTER**



**ROOTED AND AUDACIOUS AS MISSIONARY PROVINCE**

**PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT REPORT**  
**2016-2022**

**Maryland, Nekede, Owerri.**

**19-26 June 2022.**

# GOVERNMENT REPORT

[Claretian Missionaries, East Nigeria Province]

## STATISTICS

### STATE OF THE MAJOR ORGANISMS

#### A - Personnel Incardinated in the Organism

**Table 1: Personnel incardinated in the Organism as of December 31, 2021**

##### a. Bishops

| s/n | Name                     | Status | Date of Birth | First Prof. | Final Prof. | Ordination.                   |
|-----|--------------------------|--------|---------------|-------------|-------------|-------------------------------|
| 1   | Most Rev Wilfred Anagbe  | Bishop | 2/4/1965      | 8/9/1987    | 13/9/1992   | P. 6/8/94<br>Ep.<br>8/7/2014  |
| 2   | Most Rev Hilary Dachelem | Bishop | 3/6/1966      | 8/9/1988    | 12/9/1993   | P. 1/7/95<br>Ep.<br>17/8/2017 |

##### b. Priests

| S/N | Name                  | Status | Date of Birth | First Prof. | Final Prof. | Ord.      | Ordn.       |
|-----|-----------------------|--------|---------------|-------------|-------------|-----------|-------------|
| 1.  | Achebe Ikenna Anthony | Priest | 20/9/1983     | 8/9/2005    | 8/9/2012    | 28/6/2014 | Presbyteral |
| 2.  | Adile John Francis    |        | 27/3/1967     | 8/9/1991    | 13/9/1998   | 10/7/1999 | Presbyteral |
| 3.  | Adisionu Patrick      |        | 19/11/1986    | 7/8/2017    | 8/9/2020    | 10/7/2021 | Presbyteral |
| 4.  | Agu Anthony           |        | 12/5/1961     | 8/8/1985    | 14/9/1991   | 3/7/1993  | Presbyteral |
| 5.  | Agu Terence Onyegbule |        | 5/9/1970      | 8/9/1992    | 12/9/1999   | 15/7/2000 | Presbyteral |
| 6.  | Ajaegbu Antoninus     |        | 10/5/1965     | 8/9/1987    | 13/9/1992   | 9/7/1994  | Presbyteral |
| 7.  | Akara Boniface        |        | 15/7/1959     | 8/9/1985    | 11/9/1988   | 14/7/1990 | Presbyteral |
| 8.  | Akujobi Damian        |        | 1/3/1967      | 8/9/1992    | 12/9/1999   | 15/7/2000 | Presbyteral |
| 9.  | Akujuobi Jude         |        | 28/8/1990     | 8/9/2013    | 8/9/2019    | 10/7/2021 | Presbyteral |
| 10. | Amadi Augustine       |        | 13/7/1958     | 8/9/1980    | 11/9/1988   | 21/7/1990 | Presbyteral |
| 11. | Amadi Charles         |        | 3/10/1949     | 5/1/1975    | 1/9/1979    | 11/7/1981 | Presbyteral |

|     |                          |  |            |           |            |           |             |
|-----|--------------------------|--|------------|-----------|------------|-----------|-------------|
| 12. | Amaegwu Joseph           |  | 12/3/1960  | 8/9/1985  | 10/9/1989  | 6/7/1991  | Presbyteral |
| 13. | Amaku Ethelbert Ejiogu   |  | 22/1/1954  | 30/8/1980 | 15/9/1985  | 1/8/1987  | Presbyteral |
| 14. | Amaku Peter Claver       |  | 23/5/1987  | 8/9/2013  | 8/9/2019   | 10/7/2021 | Presbyteral |
| 15. | Amandikwa Anselm         |  | 25/5/1964  | 8/9/1986  | 14/9/1991  | 3/7/1993  | Presbyteral |
| 16. | Amanfo Damian Kelechukwu |  | 23/4/1967  | 15/9/1990 | 15/9/1995  | 5/7/1997  | Presbyteral |
| 17. | Anadu Hilary Ifeakandu   |  | 28/2/1979  | 8/9/2003  | 12/9/2010  | 16/7/2012 | Presbyteral |
| 18. | Ani Cajetan              |  | 13/4/1960  | 8/9/1988  | 12/9/1993  | 12/8/1995 | Presbyteral |
| 19. | Anyaeosim Emmanuel       |  | 30/8/1988  | 8/9/2010  | 8/9/2018   | 13/7/2019 | Presbyteral |
| 20. | Anyanwu Cajetan Amaechi  |  | 16/9/1962  | 8/9/1985  | 11/9/1988  | 21/7/1990 | Presbyteral |
| 21. | Anyanwu Jude             |  | 14/4/1978  | 8/9/1999  | 10/9/2006  | 12/7/2008 | Presbyteral |
| 22. | Anyanwu Sixtus           |  | 28/3/1985  | 8/9/2006  | 8/9/2013   | 4/7/2015  | Presbyteral |
| 23. | Asiegbu Cyriacus         |  | 7/7/1969   | 8/9/1995  | 15/9/2002  | 5/7/2003  | Presbyteral |
| 24. | Azinta Anthony           |  | 16/4/1959  | 25/3/1983 | 13/9/1987  | 15/7/1989 | Presbyteral |
| 25. | Chiaha Raphael .C        |  | 7/1/1990   | 8/9/2013  | 8/9/2019   | 10/7/2021 | Presbyteral |
| 26. | Chima Michael            |  | 1/8/1980   | 8/9/2003  | 30/8/2010  | 24/6/2017 | Presbyteral |
| 27. | Chinweze Nicholas        |  | 23/4/1965  | 8/9/1991  | 14/9/1997  | 8/8/1998  | Presbyteral |
| 28. | Chukwu Marcus            |  | 30/3/1962  | 25/3/1983 | 11/9/1988  | 21/7/1990 | Presbyteral |
| 29. | Diala Paschal            |  | 30/10/1986 | 8/9/2007  | 13/9/2014  | 15/7/2017 | Presbyteral |
| 30. | Duru Innocent            |  | 17/4/1976  | 8/9/2001  | 8/9/2007   | 4/7/2009  | Presbyteral |
| 31. | Ebo Henry                |  | 9/2/1973   | 8/9/1998  | 11/9/2005  | 15/7/2006 | Presbyteral |
| 32. | Edeh Emmanuel            |  | 22/11/1962 | 8/9/1985  | 11/9/1988  | 21/7/1990 | Presbyteral |
| 33. | Edoziem Innocent         |  | 25/11/1947 | 5/1/1975  | 1/9/1979   | 11/7/1981 | Presbyteral |
| 34. | Egbu Joseph              |  | 4/10/1972  | 8/9/1998  | 11/9/2005  | 15/7/2006 | Presbyteral |
| 35. | Eke Nathaniel            |  | 12/4/1975  | 8/9/1996  | 24/10/2003 | 19/3/2006 | Presbyteral |

|     |                        |  |            |           |            |           |             |
|-----|------------------------|--|------------|-----------|------------|-----------|-------------|
| 36. | Ekeanyanwu Hilarion    |  | 29/6/1966  | 8/9/1991  | 13/9/1998  | 10/7/1999 | Presbyteral |
| 37. | Ekeogu Patrick         |  | 14/4/1960  | 8/9/1986  | 10/10/1989 | 13/7/1991 | Presbyteral |
| 38. | Ekwems Henry           |  | 4/9/1989   | 8/9/2010  | 8/9/2017   | 13/7/2019 | Presbyteral |
| 39. | Ekwomadu Victor        |  | 30/12/1964 | 8/9/1988  | 13/9/1992  | 3/7/1993  | Presbyteral |
| 40. | Ekwujuru Stanislaus    |  | 27/3/1984  | 8/9/2004  | 16/7/2011  | 6/7/2013  | Presbyteral |
| 41. | Ekwuru George          |  | 26/10/1960 | 25/3/1983 | 13/9/1987  | 15/7/1989 | Presbyteral |
| 42. | Emenyonu Callistus     |  | 22/10/1968 | 15/9/1990 | 15/9/1995  | 15/7/2000 | Presbyteral |
| 43. | Essien Anthony         |  | 19/10/1958 | 8/9/1980  | 11/9/1988  | 15/7/1989 | Presbyteral |
| 44. | Eze Christian Chibueze |  | 3/10/1958  | 8/9/1985  | 11/9/1988  | 21/7/1990 | Presbyteral |
| 45. | Ezenwankwor John       |  | 2/5/1968   | 15/9/1990 | 14/9/1997  | 16/8/1998 | Presbyteral |
| 46. | Ezeonu Patrick         |  | 31/1/1961  | 8/9/1986  | 14/9/1991  | 3/7/1993  | Presbyteral |
| 47. | Ibe Augustine          |  | 3/3/1969   | 8/9/1996  | 12/9/2004  | 25/6/2005 | Presbyteral |
| 48. | Ibe Casmir             |  | 20/7/1974  | 8/9/1997  | 11/9/2005  | 15/7/2006 | Presbyteral |
| 49. | Ibeawuchi Anthony      |  | 18/4/1947  | 2/10/1976 | 26/4/1981  | 14/2/1982 | Presbyteral |
| 50. | Igba Emmanuel          |  | 2/3/1989   | 8/9/2013  | 8/9/2019   | 10/7/2021 | Presbyteral |
| 51. | Igbo Philip            |  | 8/3/1965   | 15/9/1990 | 15/9/1995  | 5/7/1997  | Presbyteral |
| 52. | Igboamalu Boniface     |  | 28/4/1969  | 11/9/1994 | 8/9/2001   | 30/6/2002 | Presbyteral |
| 53. | Igwe Magnus Obiora     |  | 3/7/1974   | 8/9/1997  | 12/9/2004  | 25/6/2005 | Presbyteral |
| 54. | Igwe Perpetus          |  | 2/4/1964   | 8/9/1987  | 13/9/1992  | 9/7/1994  | Presbyteral |
| 55. | Iheanacho Francis      |  | 26/12/1953 | 8/9/1985  | 10/9/1989  | 20/7/1999 | Presbyteral |
| 56. | Iheme Chukwuemeka      |  | 18/3/1975  | 8/9/1998  | 11/9/2005  | 15/7/2006 | Presbyteral |
| 57. | Ike Lawrence           |  | 24/7/1967  | 8/9/1989  | 11/9/1994  | 7/7/1996  | Presbyteral |
| 58. | Ilonwa Francis         |  | 8/4/1969   | 8/9/1996  | 12/9/2004  | 25/6/2005 | Presbyteral |
| 59. | Isidenu Wenceslaus     |  | 3/9/1980   | 8/9/2002  | 8/9/2008   | 10/7/2010 | Presbyteral |
| 60. | Iwu Gregory            |  | 20/10/1977 | 8/9/2002  | 15/8/2008  | 9/7/2011  | Presbyteral |
| 61. | Iwuagwu Matthew        |  | 8/5/1983   | 8/9/2004  | 11/9/2011  | 6/7/2013  | Presbyteral |
| 62. | Iyagbe Samuel          |  | 24/3/1986  | 8/9/2008  | 12/9/2015  | 15/7/2017 | Presbyteral |
| 63. | Kalu Stephen           |  | 6/6/1977   | 8/9/2002  | 8/9/2008   | 9/7/2011  | Presbyteral |
| 64. | Kanwa Kenneth          |  | 16/8/1987  | 8/9/2009  | 10/9/2016  | 7/7/2018  | Presbyteral |
| 65. | Leka-Ire-Henry         |  | 10/5/1986  | 8/9/2010  | 8/9/2017   | 13/7/2019 | Presbyteral |

|     |                            |  |            |           |           |            |             |
|-----|----------------------------|--|------------|-----------|-----------|------------|-------------|
| 66. | Madu Wenceslaus            |  | 28/9/1955  | 28/8/1983 | 13/9/1986 | 1/8/1987   | Presbyteral |
| 67. | Maduike Kingsley           |  | 24/10/1971 | 16/7/2002 | 15/8/2008 | 10/7/2010  | Presbyteral |
| 68. | Madunagu Michael           |  | 27/3/1987  | 8/9/2011  | 8/9/2018  | 19/12/2020 | Presbyteral |
| 69. | Mbogu Nicholas             |  | 3/10/1958  | 28/8/1983 | 13/9/1987 | 21/7/1990  | Presbyteral |
| 70. | Mmuo Matthew Okechukwu     |  | 27/5/1986  | 8/9/2005  | 8/9/2012  | 28/7/2014  | Presbyteral |
| 71. | Muoma Paulinus             |  | 27/9/1966  | 8/9/1996  | 15/9/2002 | 10/7/2004  | Presbyteral |
| 72. | Ndulor Cosmas              |  | 21/8/1966  | 8/9/1991  | 14/9/1997 | 8/8/1998   | Presbyteral |
| 73. | Njoku Francis              |  | 4/10/1962  | 8/9/1985  | 10/9/1989 | 13/7/1991  | Presbyteral |
| 74. | Njoku George               |  | 7/5/1985   | 8/9/2007  | 13/9/2014 | 28/6/2016  | Presbyteral |
| 75. | Nnonyelum Maxwell          |  | 10/6/1991  | 8/9/2013  | 8/9/2019  | 10/7/2021  | Presbyteral |
| 76. | Nwamadi Reginald           |  | 11/4/1950  | 8/1/1977  | 28/8/1983 | 24/6/1984  | Presbyteral |
| 77. | Nwana Josaphat             |  | 25/4/1964  | 11/9/1994 | 10/9/2000 | 30/6/2001  | Presbyteral |
| 78. | Nweke Cornelius            |  | 22/6/1985  | 8/9/2007  | 13/9/2014 | 15/7/2017  | Presbyteral |
| 79. | Nwobi Simeon               |  | 25/3/1960  | 25/3/1983 | 11/9/1988 | 21/7/1990  | Presbyteral |
| 80. | Nwokeke Elias              |  | 6/5/1972   | 8/9/1991  | 13/9/1998 | 10/7/1999  | Presbyteral |
| 81. | Nzeh Godwin                |  | 12/12/1953 | 2/10/1976 | 26/4/1981 | 14/2/1982  | Presbyteral |
| 82. | Obasi Cletus               |  | 19/5/1956  | 8/9/1980  | 13/9/1986 | 15/7/1989  | Presbyteral |
| 83. | Obiadazie Augustine Mary   |  | 7/6/1988   | 8/9/2011  | 8/9/2018  | 19/12/2020 | Presbyteral |
| 84. | Obiechina Jude             |  | 8/12/1946  | 8/1/1977  | 18/4/1982 | 25/6/1983  | Presbyteral |
| 85. | Obieloka Japhet            |  | 25/1/1971  | 8/9/1996  | 12/9/2004 | 15/7/2006  | Presbyteral |
| 86. | Obilo Marcellinus Ndubuisi |  | 18/3/1982  | 8/9/2005  | 8/9/2012  | 28/6/2014  | Presbyteral |
| 87. | Obinna Barnabas            |  | 15/11/1973 | 8/9/1998  | 11/9/2005 | 15/7/2006  | Presbyteral |
| 88. | Offor Ernest               |  | 18/9/1978  | 8/9/2001  | 8/9/2008  | 10/7/2010  | Presbyteral |
| 89. | Ogaraku Stanley            |  | 8/2/1982   | 8/9/2004  | 16/7/2011 | 6/7/2013   | Presbyteral |
| 90. | Ogbonna Philip             |  | 30/1/1956  | 8/1/1977  | 23/8/1983 | 24/6/1984  | Presbyteral |

|      |                                   |  |            |           |           |            |             |
|------|-----------------------------------|--|------------|-----------|-----------|------------|-------------|
| 91.  | Ogbozo<br>Chrysanthus             |  | 25/10/1961 | 8/9/1980  | 13/9/1987 | 15/7/1988  | Presbyteral |
| 92.  | Ogbuka<br>Matthew                 |  | 7/1/1970   | 8/9/1993  | 10/9/2000 | 21/7/2001  | Presbyteral |
| 93.  | Ogom Sunday                       |  | 18/7/1985  | 8/9/2007  | 13/9/2014 | 28/6/2016  | Presbyteral |
| 94.  | Oguejiofor<br>Kenneth             |  | 10/7/1961  | 8/9/1989  | 13/9/1992 | 3/7/1993   | Presbyteral |
| 95.  | Ogugua<br>Christopher<br>Ikem     |  | 1/6/1970   | 8/9/1995  | 15/9/2002 | 5/7/2003   | Presbyteral |
| 96.  | Ohiaege Julius                    |  | 26/6/1959  | 25/3/1983 | 11/9/1988 | 21/7/1990  | Presbyteral |
| 97.  | Okafor<br>Christian               |  | 4/3/1979   | 8/9/2001  | 8/9/2008  | 10/7/2010  | Presbyteral |
| 98.  | Okafor<br>Innocent                |  | 16/4/1974  | 8/9/1997  | 21/8/2004 | 15/7/2006  | Presbyteral |
| 99.  | Okeke David                       |  | 18/5/1965  | 8/9/1987  | 13/9/1992 | 23/7/1994  | Presbyteral |
| 100. | Okereke<br>Desmond<br>Ikeme       |  | 19/2/1947  | 8/9/1985  | 11/9/1988 | 21/7/1990  | Presbyteral |
| 101. | Okoli Paul                        |  | 3/4/1949   | 8/1/1977  | 18/4/1982 | 25/6/1983  | Presbyteral |
| 102. | Okolo Anthony<br>Offor            |  | 12/11/1965 | 15/9/1990 | 14/9/1997 | 8/8/1998   | Presbyteral |
| 103. | Okonkwo<br>Charles                |  | 7/2/1990   | 8/9/2012  | 8/9/2018  | 19/12/2020 | Presbyteral |
| 104. | Okorie Francis                    |  | 6/6/1986   | 8/9/2007  | 13/9/2014 | 28/6/2016  | Presbyteral |
| 105. | Okorie<br>Maximus                 |  | 11/12/1988 | 8/9/2009  | 8/9/2017  | 7/7/2018   | Presbyteral |
| 106. | Okoye Gabriel                     |  | 8/10/1935  | 15/1/1978 | 26/4/1980 | 14/9/1981  | Presbyteral |
| 107. | Okwara<br>Emmanuel                |  | 10/5/1987  | 8/9/2007  | 13/9/2014 | 28/6/2016  | Presbyteral |
| 108. | Omelukam<br>Sylvester             |  | 12/7/1987  | 8/9/2013  | 8/9/2019  | 10/7/2021  | Presbyteral |
| 109. | Onele Paul                        |  | 26/9/1988  | 8/9/2010  | 8/9/2017  | 13/7/2019  | Presbyteral |
| 110. | Onele Peter                       |  | 26/9/1988  | 8/9/2010  | 8/9/2017  | 13/7/2019  | Presbyteral |
| 111. | Onuekwusi<br>Roland<br>Chidiebere |  | 18/12/1964 | 8/9/1988  | 12/9/1993 | 8/7/1995   | Presbyteral |
| 112. | Onuoha<br>Anistus Chima           |  | 17/4/1964  | 8/9/1986  | 10/9/1989 | 28/7/1995  | Presbyteral |
| 113. | Onwuasoanya<br>Charles            |  | 13/7/1978  | 8/9/2002  | 8/9/2008  | 9/7/2011   | Presbyteral |
| 114. | Onwuzuruike<br>Livinus            |  | 29/6/1956  | 1/9/1979  | 10/9/1989 | 10/6/1992  | Presbyteral |

|      |                            |  |            |           |           |           |             |
|------|----------------------------|--|------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-------------|
| 115. | Onyejekwe<br>Marcellinus   |  | 19/9/1961  | 8/9/1986  | 14/9/1991 | 3/7/1993  | Presbyteral |
| 116. | Onyekuru<br>Bruno          |  | 24/12/1959 | 8/9/1980  | 13/9/1986 | 20/8/1988 | Presbyteral |
| 117. | Onyemere<br>Stanislaus     |  | 29/1/1956  | 30/8/1980 | 13/9/1986 | 20/8/1988 | Presbyteral |
| 118. | Onyenali<br>Rowland        |  | 30/5/1974  | 8/9/1995  | 15/9/2002 | 5/7/2003  | Presbyteral |
| 119. | Onyeocha Izu<br>Marcel     |  | 16/11/1951 | 5/1/1975  | 1/9/1979  | 11/7/1981 | Presbyteral |
| 120. | Oparaji<br>Marcellinus     |  | 30/8/1971  | 8/9/1996  | 12/9/2004 | 25/6/2005 | Presbyteral |
| 121. | Oranebo<br>Olisaemeka      |  | 15/1/1977  | 8/9/2001  | 8/9/2008  | 10/7/2010 | Presbyteral |
| 122. | Orazulume<br>Valentine     |  | 6/2/1991   | 8/9/2010  | 8/9/2017  | 13/7/2019 | Presbyteral |
| 123. | Osuagwu<br>Henry Chima     |  | 7/7/1975   | 8/9/2004  | 12/9/2010 | 16/7/2012 | Presbyteral |
| 124. | Uche Cletus                |  | 11/11/1984 | 8/9/2008  | 12/9/2015 | 15/7/2017 | Presbyteral |
| 125. | Uchendu<br>Clement         |  | 14/12/1982 | 8/9/2006  | 8/9/2013  | 4/7/2015  | Presbyteral |
| 126. | Udeze Joseph<br>Chidozie   |  | 11/4/1961  | 8/9/1985  | 10/9/1989 | 14/7/1991 | Presbyteral |
| 127. | Ugo Aloysius               |  | 1/4/1975   | 8/9/1999  | 10/9/2006 | 12/7/2008 | Presbyteral |
| 128. | Ugorji Declan              |  | 14/11/1966 | 8/9/1989  | 11/9/1994 | 7/7/1996  | Presbyteral |
| 129. | Ugorji Edward              |  | 25/4/1958  | 30/8/1980 | 13/9/1986 | 21/7/1990 | Presbyteral |
| 130. | Ugwu Celestine             |  | 23/10/1969 | 8/9/2001  | 10/9/2006 | 12/7/2008 | Presbyteral |
| 131. | Ugwu Polycarp<br>Ikechukwu |  | 29/7/1970  | 15/9/1990 | 15/9/1995 | 5/9/1997  | Presbyteral |
| 132. | Ukata<br>Emmanuel<br>Egbe  |  | 20/4/1984  | 8/9/2005  | 8/9/2012  | 28/6/2014 | Presbyteral |
| 133. | Ukpong<br>Dominic          |  | 29/5/1986  | 8/9/2007  | 13/9/2014 | 28/6/2016 | Presbyteral |
| 134. | Umennebuaku<br>Venatius A. |  | 11/7/1973  | 8/9/1996  | 12/9/2004 | 25/7/2005 | Presbyteral |
| 135. | Umeyor<br>Eugene           |  | 9/5/1977   | 8/9/1998  | 11/9/2005 | 23/7/2007 | Presbyteral |
| 136. | Uwakwe<br>Dennis           |  | 9/7/1973   | 8/9/2013  | 10/9/2016 | 15/7/2017 | Presbyteral |
| 137. | Uzoekwe Raphael            |  | 29/9/1971  | 8/9/1993  | 10/9/2000 | 30/7/2001 | Presbyteral |
| 138. | Uzoma Godwin<br>Chukwudi   |  | 18/4/1968  | 8/9/1992  | 13/9/1998 | 10/7/1999 | Presbyteral |

### c. Students

| S/N | Name                  | Status  | Date of Birth | First Prof. | Final Prof. | Ord.     |
|-----|-----------------------|---------|---------------|-------------|-------------|----------|
|     | <b>Theology</b>       |         |               |             |             |          |
| 1.  | Achukwu Anthony       | Student | 19/9/1992     | 11/9/2021   |             |          |
| 2.  | Anaejionu Sixtus      |         | 3/4/1989      | 12/9/2015   | 8/9/2020    |          |
| 3.  | Anyanwu Charles       |         | 24/9/1990     | 8/9/2013    | 8/9/2020    |          |
| 4.  | Chima Kenneth         |         | 14/12/1993    | 8/9/2019    | -           |          |
| 5.  | Dike Stephen          |         | 26/7/1991     | 8/9/2019    | -           |          |
| 6.  | Ede Joseph            |         | 15/7/1988     | 8/9/2019    | -           |          |
| 7.  | Eluro Promise         |         | 3/11/1991     | 12/9/2015   | 8/9/2020    |          |
| 8.  | Ezeokobe Peregrine    |         | 10/9/1995     | 12/9/2015   |             |          |
| 9.  | Gofung Nenfort John   |         | 27/12/1994    | 11/9/2021   |             |          |
| 10. | Iheanacho Sixtus      |         | 10/6/1990     | 12/9/2015   |             |          |
| 11. | Nnabuihe Justus       |         | 13/6/1995     | 11/9/2021   |             |          |
| 12. | Nwachukwu Jude        |         | 22/6/1992     | 12/9/2015   | 8/9/2020    | Diaconal |
| 13. | Nwakuba Stanislaus    |         | 24/9/1994     | 11/9/2021   |             |          |
| 14. | Nwogwugwu Kevin       |         | 14/4/1991     | 8/9/2019    |             |          |
| 15. | Nwogwugwu Magnus      |         | 18/11/1990    | 8/9/2013    | 8/9/2020    | Diaconal |
| 16. | Obasi Nkem Valentine  |         | 21/9/1994     | 11/9/2021   |             |          |
| 17. | Ogbede Emmanuel       |         | 10/9/1994     | 8/9/2020    |             |          |
| 18. | Ogbuokiri Martin      |         | 29/7/1991     | 15/9/2015   | 8/9/2020    | Diaconal |
| 19. | Okafor Peter Damian   |         | 22/8/1991     | 12/9/2015   |             |          |
| 20. | Okereke Kelechi M     |         | 19/9/1995     | 12/9/2019   | 11/9/2021   |          |
| 21. | Onuegbu Venatius      |         | 15/11/1989    | 12/9/2015   | 11/9/2021   |          |
| 22. | Onwe Peter            |         | 4/1/1992      | 8/9/2020    |             |          |
| 23. | Onyekwere Charles     |         | 10/6/1995     | 8/9/2019    |             |          |
| 24. | Seidu Bright Justice  |         | 15/3/1993     | 11/9/2021   |             |          |
| 25. | Ugwumba Jonathan. I   |         | 3/3/1992      | 11/9/2021   |             |          |
|     |                       |         |               |             |             | -        |
|     | <b>Novitiate</b>      |         |               |             |             | -        |
| 26. | Ade Gabriel           | Novice. | 16/12/1995    |             |             | -        |
| 27. | Akeme Emmanuel        | Novice. | 25/12/1990    |             |             | -        |
| 28. | Anadu Philip Nnadozie | Novice. | 1/1/1992      |             |             |          |
| 29. | Ani Onyebuchi Matthew | Novice. | 19/11/1992    |             |             |          |
| 30. | Ashikem Paul          | Novice. | 22/1/1995     |             |             |          |
| 31. | Efidi Jeremiah        | Novice. | 15/4/1992     |             |             |          |
| 32. | Ike David             | Novice. | 1/3/1997      |             |             |          |
| 33. | Meke Paschal Chukwuma | Novice  | 11/4/1993     |             |             |          |
| 34. | Nimo Douglas          | Novice  | 22/5/1994     |             |             |          |
| 35. | Okafor Martin .C      | Novice  | 11/6/1991     |             |             |          |
| 36. | Otuibe Nicodemus .N   | Novice  | 14/1/1994     |             |             |          |



|     | <b>Postulants<sup>1</sup><br/>[Apostolic Year]</b> |           |  |               |  |  |
|-----|--|-----------|--|---------------|--|--|
| 37. | Agha Harribeth                                     | Postulant |  | Non Professed |  |  |
| 38. | Anukam Isaac                                       |           |  | Non Prof.     |  |  |
| 39. | Anyaoha Hyginus                                    |           |  | Non Prof.     |  |  |
| 40. | Mbachu Hilary                                      |           |  | Non Prof.     |  |  |
| 41. | Longjohn Michael                                   |           |  | Non Prof.     |  |  |
| 42. | Obasi Collins                                      |           |  | Non Prof.     |  |  |
| 43. | Obasi Joshua                                       |           |  | Non Prof.     |  |  |
| 44. | Oguda John Paul                                    |           |  | Non Prof.     |  |  |
| 45. | Orhembega Francis                                  |           |  | Non Prof.     |  |  |
|     | <b>Postulants<sup>2</sup><br/>[Philosophy]</b>     |           |  |               |  |  |
| 46. | Akujuobi Augustine                                 |           |  | Non. Prof     |  |  |
| 47. | Arthur Emmanuel                                    |           |  | Non Prof.     |  |  |
| 48. | Asiyang Francis                                    |           |  | Non Prof.     |  |  |
| 49. | Chinedu Anthony                                    |           |  | Non-Prof      |  |  |
| 50. | Eze Richard  |           |  | Non Prof.     |  |  |
| 51. | Ezeukwu Hilary                                     |           |  | Non Prof.     |  |  |
| 52. | Goewan Ambrose                                     |           |  | Non Prof.     |  |  |
| 53. | Natuo Jonas  |           |  | Non Prof.     |  |  |
| 54. | Nwafor Michael                                     |           |  | Non Prof.     |  |  |
| 55. | Ogakwu Dominic                                     |           |  | Non Prof.     |  |  |
| 56. | Ogbulie Primus                                     |           |  | Non Prof.     |  |  |
| 57. | Okonkwo Goodness                                   |           |  | Non Prof.     |  |  |
| 58. | Onuoha Ernest                                      |           |  | Non Prof.     |  |  |
| 59. | Onyewuenyi Stephen                                 |           |  | Non Prof.     |  |  |
| 60. | Otokpa Emmanuel                                    |           |  | Non Prof.     |  |  |
| 61. | Saaior Shadrack                                    |           |  | Non Prof.     |  |  |
| 62. | Uwakwe John Kennedy                                |           |  | Non Prof.     |  |  |

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<sup>1</sup> Numbers 37-45 are Postulants doing regency programme after Philosophy

<sup>2</sup> Numbers 46-62 are Postulants studying Philosophy at the Claretian Institute of Philosophy Maryland Nekede, Owerri

**Table 2: Average Age of Members of the Province as of December 31, 2021<sup>3</sup>**

|                          |                         |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|
|                          |                         |
| <b>Bishops</b>           | <b>55.5</b>             |
| <b>Priests</b>           | <b>50.1</b>             |
| <b>Permanent Deacons</b> |                         |
| <b>Brothers</b>          |                         |
| <b>Students</b>          | <b>28.9<sup>4</sup></b> |
| <b>Novices</b>           | <b>27.8</b>             |

**Table 3: Personnel of the Organism by the Place in which it develops the Activity<sup>5</sup>**

| Place                         | ACLA       | ASCLA East | ASCLA West | ECLA     | MICLA    | Total      |
|-------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|----------|----------|------------|
| <b>General House</b>          |            |            |            |          |          |            |
| <b>Positions of the Org</b>   | 127        |            |            |          |          | <b>127</b> |
| <b>Other Congr. Organisms</b> | 7          |            |            |          |          | <b>7</b>   |
| <b>Others</b>                 |            |            |            | 2        | 2        | <b>4</b>   |
| <b>Total</b>                  | <b>134</b> |            |            | <b>2</b> | <b>2</b> | <b>138</b> |

**Table 4: Personnel of the Major Organism by country of birth<sup>6</sup>**

| Country      | Number     |
|--------------|------------|
| Nigeria      | 137        |
| Ghana        | 1          |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>138</b> |

## 2. Evolution of the Personnel in the Sexennium

**Table 5: Number of Claretians of the Major Organism**

| On Dec 31 | Bishops | Priests | Perm. Deacons | Brothers | Students | Novices | Total |
|-----------|---------|---------|---------------|----------|----------|---------|-------|
| 2016      | 1       | 133     | -             | -        | 45       | 1       | 180   |
| 2017      | 2       | 135     | -             | -        | 33       | -       | 170   |
| 2018      | 2       | 135     | -             | -        | 31       | 5       | 173   |
| 2019      | 2       | 139     | -             | -        | 30       | 9       | 180   |
| 2020      | 2       | 137     | -             | -        | 27       | 7       | 173   |
| 2021      | 2       | 138     |               |          | 25       | 11      | 176   |

<sup>3</sup> It is obtained by adding the age of the members of each group and dividing the result by the number of persons that form part of that group.

<sup>4</sup> Average age of Professed Students

<sup>5</sup> Here only the number of members *incardinated* in the Major Organism.

<sup>6</sup> Here only the members of *incardinated* in the Major Organism as at December 31, 2021.

**Table 6: Age of the Professed of the Major Organism<sup>7</sup>**

| Age         | December 31, 2015 | December 31, 2021 |
|-------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 84 and over | 1                 | 1                 |
| 78-83       | 1                 | Nil               |
| 72-77       | Nil               | 6                 |
| 66-71       | 7                 | 6                 |
| 60-65       | 7                 | 24                |
| 54-59       | 27                | 25                |
| 48-53       | 28                | 22                |
| 42-47       | 23                | 18                |
| 36-41       | 24                | 15                |
| 30-35       | 16                | 35                |
| 24-29       | 40                | 24                |
| 18-23       | 6                 | Nil               |

**Table 7: Number of those who entered the Novitiate**

| Year  | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 |
|-------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Total | 1    | Nil  | 5    | 9    | 7    | 11   |

**Table 8: Number of First Professions**

|                     | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | Total |
|---------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-------|
| For Priesthood      | Nil  | Nil  | Nil  | 6    | 2    | 7    | 15    |
| For Perm. Diaconate | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | -     |
| For Brotherhood     | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | -     |
| Total               | Nil  | Nil  | Nil  | 6    | 2    | 7    | 15    |

**Table 9: Number of Perpetual Professions**

|                     | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | Total |
|---------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-------|
| For Priesthood      | 2    | 6    | 4    | 7    | 7    | 2    | 28    |
| For Perm. Diaconate | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    |       |

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<sup>7</sup> The first column is the same that was registered in the Report for the 2016 Chapter.

|                        |          |          |          |          |          |          |           |
|------------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|
| <b>For Brotherhood</b> | -        | -        | -        | -        | -        | -        |           |
| <b>Total</b>           | <b>2</b> | <b>6</b> | <b>4</b> | <b>7</b> | <b>7</b> | <b>2</b> | <b>28</b> |

**Table 10: Number of Ordinations**

|                            | <b>2016</b> | <b>2017</b> | <b>2018</b> | <b>2019</b> | <b>2020</b> | <b>2021</b> | <b>Total</b> |
|----------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|
| <b>Episcopal</b>           | -           | 1           | -           | -           | -           |             | 1            |
| <b>Presbyteral</b>         | 6           | 7           | 2           | 7           | 4           | 6           | 32           |
| <b>Permanent Deaconate</b> | -           | -           | -           | -           | -           |             |              |
| <b>Total</b>               | <b>6</b>    | <b>7</b>    | <b>2</b>    | <b>7</b>    | <b>4</b>    | <b>6</b>    | <b>32</b>    |

**Table 11: Change of juridical condition from January 1, 2016, to December 31, 2021**

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| Brothers who have gone on to become Priests or Perm. Deacons | Nil |
| Students who have been ordained Priests                      | 32  |
| Students who have gone on to become Brothers or Per. Deacons | Nil |
| Students who have ended their studies without being ordained | 15  |

**Table 12: Incardinated in the Organism by Fr. General or because they were elected or appointed members of the Government of the Organism <sup>8</sup>**

|              | <b>Priests</b> | <b>Deacons</b> | <b>Students</b> | <b>Brothers</b> | <b>Total</b> |
|--------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|--------------|
| 2016         | -              | -              | -               | -               | -            |
| 2017         | -              | -              | -               | -               | -            |
| 2018         | -              | -              | -               | -               | -            |
| 2019         | -              | -              | -               | -               | -            |
| 2020         | -              | -              | -               | -               | -            |
| 2021         |                |                |                 |                 |              |
| <b>Total</b> | -              | -              | -               | -               | -            |

<sup>8</sup> Does not include those who have been only temporarily assigned to the Organism.

**Table 13: Excardinated by Fr. General or because they were elected or appointed members of the Government of other Organism<sup>9</sup>**

|              | <b>Priests</b>  | <b>Deacons</b> | <b>Students</b> | <b>Brothers</b> | <b>Total</b> |
|--------------|---|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|--------------|
| 2016         | Nil-  | -              | -               | -               | -            |
| 2017         | Okeke Ambrose [St. Charles Lwanga]<br>Madu Athanasius [St. Charles Lwanga]  | -              |                 | -               | 2            |
| 2018         | Ekong Patrick [USA-Canada]<br>Osunwa Malachy [USA-Canada]   | -              | -               | -               | 2            |
| 2019         | Nil   | -              | -               | -               | -            |
| 2020         | Alicho Vincent [St Charles Lwanga]<br>Anyanwu Chukwuemeka [St. Charles Lwanga]<br>Anyaehe Jude [West Nigeria]<br>Ohanele Chrysanthus [West Nigeria] | -              | -               | -               | 4            |
| 2021         | Nil   |                |                 |                 |              |
| <b>Total</b> |   |                |                 |                 | <b>8</b>     |

**Table 14: Deceased**

|                      | <b>2016</b> | <b>2017</b> | <b>2018</b>           | <b>2019</b> | <b>2020</b>  | <b>2021</b>   | <b>Total</b> |
|----------------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------------|-------------|--|---|--------------|
| <b>Bishops</b>       |             |             |                       |             |  |   |              |
| <b>Priests</b>       |             |             | <b>1</b><br>Ibe Cyril |             | <b>2</b><br>Ihedoro Christian Mary<br>Okoro Ebenezer | <b>4</b><br>Nwobeleagu Immanuel<br>Obika Joseph Mary<br>Chimeziri Godwin<br>Agwulonu Emmanuel | <b>7</b>     |
| <b>Perm. Deacons</b> |             |             |                       |             |  |   |              |
| <b>Students</b>      |             |             |                       |             |  |   |              |
| <b>Brothers</b>      |             |             |                       |             |  |   |              |
| <b>Total</b>         |             |             | <b>1</b>              |             | <b>2</b>   | <b>4</b>  | <b>7</b>     |

<sup>9</sup> Write the names. Do not include those who have been only temporarily assigned to the Organism.

**Table 15: Leave of Absence from Community Life (Canon 665; Dir 274)**<sup>10</sup>

|              | Priests | Perm. Deacons | Students | Brothers | Total |
|--------------|---------|---------------|----------|----------|-------|
| 2016         |         |               |          |          |       |
| 2017         |         |               |          |          |       |
| 2018         |         |               |          |          |       |
| 2019         |         |               |          |          |       |
| 2020         |         |               |          |          |       |
| 2021         |         |               |          |          |       |
| <b>Total</b> |         |               |          |          |       |

**Table 16: Exclaustrations (Canon 686; Dir 276)**<sup>11</sup>

|              | Priests                       | Perm. Deacons | Students | Brothers | Total    |
|--------------|-------------------------------|---------------|----------|----------|----------|
| <b>2016</b>  |                               |               |          |          | 0        |
| <b>2017</b>  |                               |               |          |          | 0        |
| <b>2018</b>  |                               |               |          |          | 0        |
| <b>2019</b>  | Onuoha Anistus (Nov.26,2022)  |               |          |          | 1        |
| <b>2020</b>  | Obinna Barnabas (Feb.11,2023) |               |          |          | 1        |
| <b>2021</b>  |                               |               |          |          | 0        |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>2</b>                      |               |          |          | <b>2</b> |

**Table 17: Exclaustrations without Ministerial Licences (Dir 278)**<sup>12</sup>

|              | Priests | Deacons | Total |
|--------------|---------|---------|-------|
| <b>2016</b>  |         |         |       |
| <b>2017</b>  |         |         |       |
| <b>2018</b>  |         |         |       |
| <b>2019</b>  |         |         |       |
| <b>2020</b>  |         |         |       |
| <b>2021</b>  |         |         |       |
| <b>Total</b> |         |         |       |

<sup>10</sup> Indicates the **names** of the Claretians who each year have obtained this leave, not by reason of health, studies or ministry and, in brackets, the year in which they have been incorporated to the community.

<sup>11</sup> Indicates the **names** of the Claretians who each year have obtained this indult and, in brackets, the date of conclusion.

<sup>12</sup> Indicate in each year the **name** of the Claretian who has obtained this indult, independently of the time for which it was granted.

**Table 18: With permit of secularization *ad experimentum* (Canon 693; Dir 279)<sup>13</sup>**

|              | <b>Priests</b>  | <b>Deacons</b> | <b>Total</b> |
|--------------|---|----------------|--------------|
| <b>2015</b>  |   |                |              |
| <b>2016</b>  |   |                |              |
| <b>2017</b>  | 1. Muoma Paulinus Meriemeka<br>2. Nnadozie Paschal Chima (finally incardinated to Okigwe Diocese) |                | <b>2</b>     |
| <b>2018</b>  |   |                |              |
| <b>2019</b>  |   |                |              |
| <b>2020</b>  |   |                |              |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>2</b>  |                | <b>2</b>     |

**Table 19: With permit of secularization pure *et simpliciter* (Can 693; Dir 279)<sup>14</sup>**

|              | <b>Priests</b>   | <b>Deacons</b> | <b>Total</b> |
|--------------|------------------|----------------|--------------|
| <b>2016</b>  |                  |                |              |
| <b>2017</b>  |                  |                |              |
| <b>2018</b>  |                  |                |              |
| <b>2019</b>  | Ejikeme Anthony  |                | <b>1</b>     |
| <b>2020</b>  | Ukaonu Ambrose   |                | <b>1</b>     |
| <b>2021</b>  | Egbujor Kingsley |                | <b>1</b>     |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>3</b>         |                | <b>3</b>     |

**Table 20: Dispensation of vows or of celibacy<sup>15</sup>**

|              | <b>Priests</b> | <b>Deacons</b>  | <b>Students</b> | <b>Brothers</b> | <b>Total</b> |
|--------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|--------------|
| <b>2016</b>  |                |                 |                 |                 |              |
| <b>2017</b>  |                |                 |                 |                 |              |
| <b>2018</b>  |                |                 |                 |                 |              |
| <b>2019</b>  |                | Ibeka Valentine |                 |                 | <b>1</b>     |
| <b>2020</b>  |                |                 |                 |                 |              |
| <b>2021</b>  |                |                 |                 |                 |              |
| <b>Total</b> |                | <b>1</b>        |                 |                 | <b>1</b>     |

<sup>13</sup> Indicate in each year the **name** of the Claretian who has obtained this indult, irrespective of whether they have reintegrated into the Congregation during or after the time of experimentation or have been incorporated definitively into a diocese.

<sup>14</sup> Indicate in each year the **name** of the Claretian who has obtained this indult directly, without passing by the secularization *ad experimentum*.

<sup>15</sup> Indicate in each year the number of Claretians incardinated in the Organism who have asked for this dispensation. It is understood that it refers to the year when the documentation is sent by the Government of the Organism to the General Government.

**Table 21: In irregular situation** <sup>16</sup>

|             | <b>Priests</b>                | <b>Deacons</b>               | <b>Students</b> | <b>Brothers</b> | <b>Total</b> |
|-------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|--------------|
| <b>2016</b> |                               | Ibeka<br>Valentine<br>[2019] |                 |                 | <b>1</b>     |
| <b>2017</b> |                               | Ibeka<br>Valentine<br>[2019] |                 |                 | <b>1</b>     |
| <b>2018</b> |                               | Ibeka<br>Valentine<br>[2019] |                 |                 | <b>1</b>     |
| <b>2019</b> |                               | Ibeka<br>Valentine<br>[2019] |                 |                 | <b>1</b>     |
| <b>2020</b> | Chima Michael<br>Udeze Joseph |                              |                 |                 | <b>2</b>     |
| <b>2021</b> |                               |                              |                 |                 |              |

**Table 22: Departures of Priests and Deacons** <sup>17</sup>

|              | <b>By dismissal</b> | <b>Secularization<br/>pure et<br/>simpliciter</b> | <b>By transfer<br/>to other<br/>Institute</b> | <b>By dispensation<br/>of celibacy</b> | <b>Total</b> |
|--------------|---------------------|---|---|--|--------------|
| <b>2016</b>  |                     |   |   |  |              |
| <b>2017</b>  |                     |   |   |  |              |
| <b>2018</b>  |                     |   |   |  |              |
| <b>2019</b>  |                     | 1   |   | 1                                      | 2            |
| <b>2020</b>  |                     | 1   |   |  | 1            |
| <b>2021</b>  |                     | 1   |   |  | 1            |
| <b>Total</b> |                     | <b>3</b>  |   | <b>1</b>                               | <b>4</b>     |

<sup>16</sup> Indicate in each year the name of Claretian incardinated in the Organism who are in this situation, a) by illegitimate absence from the community; b) because, at the end of the permit or indult, they have not been incorporated; or c) because the process of dispensation of celibacy is not completed by lack of collaboration on the part of the applicant. Put in brackets ( ) the year when the irregular situation has ended because of reintegration or by dispensation or by resignation. In case the irregular situation continues as of December 31, 2021, omit the brackets without writing any date.

<sup>17</sup> Dismissal "ipso facto" (can. 694), obligatory (can. 695) or by previous process (can. 696). Cf. Manual for Secretaries nn. 100-104.



**Table 23: Departures of Brothers and Students** <sup>18</sup>

|              | <b>Brothers with perp. vows</b> | <b>Brothers with temp vows</b> | <b>Students with Perp. vows</b> | <b>Students with temp. vows</b>  | <b>Total</b> |
|--------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|--------------|
| <b>2016</b>  |                                 |                                |                                 | Ezimora Valentine<br>Ibekwe Aloysius<br>Anosikwa Anthony<br>Enemuo Onyedika<br>Emetuche Andrew<br>Ndubueze Constantine | <b>6</b>     |
| <b>2017</b>  |                                 |                                |                                 | Ogujiuba Kennedy<br>Nwosu Benedict<br>Emmanuel Essiet<br>Igwe Thomas<br>Duru John                                      | <b>5</b>     |
| <b>2018</b>  |                                 |                                |                                 | Nil  | <b>0</b>     |
| <b>2019</b>  |                                 |                                |                                 | Nil  | <b>0</b>     |
| <b>2020</b>  |                                 |                                |                                 | Amobi Augustine<br>Metu Bernard  | <b>2</b>     |
| <b>2021</b>  |                                 |                                |                                 | Aluka Michael  | <b>1</b>     |
| <b>Total</b> |                                 |                                |                                 |  | <b>14</b>    |

**Table 24: Readmissions**

|              | <b>Priests</b> | <b>Brothers</b> | <b>Students</b> | <b>Novices</b> | <b>Total</b> |
|--------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|--------------|
| <b>2016</b>  |                |                 |                 |                |              |
| <b>2017</b>  |                |                 |                 |                |              |
| <b>2018</b>  |                |                 |                 |                |              |
| <b>2019</b>  |                |                 |                 |                |              |
| <b>2020</b>  |                |                 |                 |                |              |
| <b>2021</b>  |                |                 |                 |                |              |
| <b>Total</b> |                |                 |                 |                |              |

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<sup>18</sup> In brothers and in students with temporary vows, by dispensation or at the end of the vows

## **B - Minor Organisms (*Houses, Residences, CC 89; Dir 285 b; 294-295*).**

### **AFARA/ MGBIRICHI COMMUNITY**

Diocese: Owerri

Year of Foundation: 1992

Juridical Status: House

Postal Address:

- 1) St Dominic's Catholic Parish Afara  
Box 274, Mbaitoli, Nworieubi, Imo State
- 2) St Patrick's Catholic Parish Mgbirichi  
Ohaji, Owerri, Imo State

Specific Mission: Parochial Ministry

#### **PERSONNEL**

|                         |                                     |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Fr. Antoninus Ajaegbu   | Pastor Afara/Superior               |
| Fr. Jude Akujuobi       | Vicar/Co-Pastor Afara (Bursar)      |
| Fr. Anthony Azinta      | Pastor Mgbirichi                    |
| Fr. Henry Ebo           | Pastor Abakuru                      |
| Fr. Charles Onwuasoanya | Chaplain Imo Uni. of Agric          |
| Fr. Kingsley Maduike    | Pastor Obinze                       |
| Fr. Hilarion Ekeanyanwu | Co- Pastor Obinze /Lecturer CIP/CUN |

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### **ATTAKWU COMMUNITY**

Diocese: Enugu

Year of Foundation: 1984

Juridical Status: House

Postal Address: P.O. Box 80, Enugu State

Specific Mission: Theology Formation

#### **PERSONNEL**

|                         |                        |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| Fr. Philip Igbo         | Superior               |
| Fr. Rowland Onyenali    | Prefect/ Lecturer SIST |
| Fr. Francis Njoku       | Vicar/Lecturer UNN     |
| Fr. Augustine Obiadazie | Bursar                 |
| Fr. Paul Okoli          | Lecturer SIST          |
| Fr. Celestine Ugwu      | Specialization UNN     |
| Fr. Boniface Akara      |                        |
| Fr. Stanislaus Onyemere | Spiritual Director     |
| Theology Students       |                        |
| Postulants              |                        |

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## **GARRIKI/ AMURRI COMMUNITY**

Diocese: Enugu

Year of Foundation: 1997

Juridical Status: House

Postal Address:

- 1) St Peter's Catholic Parish Garriki  
Box 405, Enugu, Enugu State
- 2) St Mary's Catholic Parish Amurri  
Enugu, Enugu State
- 3) Claretian Postulate House Umuchu  
P.O Box 80  
Enugu, Enugu State

Specific Mission: Parochial Ministry and Formation

### **PERSONNEL**

|                        |   |
|------------------------|---|
| Fr. Stephen Kalu       | Pastor Garriki  |
| Fr. Cletus Obasi       | Superior/ Co-Pastor Garriki/ Lecturer UNN               |
| Fr. Matthew Mmuo       | Co-Pastor Garriki/ Claret Academy (Sec.) School Garriki |
| Fr Peter Onele         | Co- Pastor/Claret Academy (Sec.) School Garriki         |
| Fr. David Okeke        | Pastor Amurri   |
| Fr. Chrysanthus Ogbozo | Vicar/ Rector CIP/ Lecturer CUN/UNN                     |
| Fr. Henry Ekwems       | Bursar/Co-Pastor Amurri/Claret Comp Sec. Sch            |

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## **IBELE/ ORLU COMMUNITY<sup>19</sup>**

Diocese: Orlu

Year of Foundation: 1998

Juridical Status: House

Postal Address:

- 1) St Andrew's Catholic Parish Umuaka, Ibele Orlu, Imo State

Specific Mission: Parochial Ministry

### **PERSONNEL**

|                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| Fr. Julius Ohiaeye     | Pastor Ibele/ Superior                       |
| Fr. George Ekwuru      | Vicar/ Co-Pastor Ibele/ Lecturer CIP/DVC,CUN |
| Fr. Peter Claver Amaku | Co-Pastor Ibele                              |

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<sup>19</sup> In 2020, the Diocese of Orlu took St Andrew Umueshi which used to be a part of the community.

## **NNEWI COMMUNITY<sup>20</sup>**

Diocese: Nnewi

Year of Foundation: 2000

Juridical Status: House

Postal Address: All Saints Catholic Parish Mbosi Nnewi, Anambra State

Specific Mission: Parochial

### **PERSONNEL**

|                         |                     |
|-------------------------|---------------------|
| Fr. Aloysius Ugo        | Pastor Mbosi/Bursar |
| Fr. Patrick Ekeogu      | Co-Pastor/Superior  |
| Fr. Gabriel Okoye       | Vicar               |
| Fr. Jude Mary Obiechina | Co-Pastor           |

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## **MARYLAND CIP COMMUNITY**

Diocese: Owerri

Year of Foundation: 1978

Juridical Status: House

Postal Address: Claretian Institute of Philosophy Mary Land

Nekede, P.O. Box 328 Owerri, Imo State

Specific Mission: Philosophy Formation

### **PERSONNEL**

|                        |                                     |
|------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Fr. Henry Osuagwu      | CUN                                 |
| Fr. Chukwuemeka Iheme  | Superior/ Prefect of Students       |
| Fr. Kenneth Oguejiofor | Lecturer                            |
| Fr. Cletus Uche        | Vicar/Asst. Prefect of Students/CUN |
| Fr. Charles Amadi      | Confessor CIP                       |
| Fr. Raphael Chiaha     | Bursar                              |
| Philosophy Students    |                                     |

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## **MARYLAND STAFF COMMUNITY**

Diocese: Owerri

Year of Foundation: 1991

Juridical Status: House

Postal Address: Claretian Institute of Philosophy Mary Land

Nekede, P.O. Box 328 Owerri, Imo State

Specific Mission: CIP/University Ministry

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<sup>20</sup> The Address changed from Holy Family Catholic Church Nnewi to All Saints Catholic Church Mbosi

## **PERSONNEL**

|                           |                                     |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Fr. Ethelbert Amaku       | Superior/ Lecturer CIP/CUN/IMSU     |
| Fr. Anthony Ibeawuchi     | Confessor CIP                       |
| Fr. Innocent Edoziem      | Spiritual Director CIP              |
| Fr. Emmanuel Edeh         | Vicar/Lecturer CIP/CUN              |
| Fr. Godwin Nzeh           | Lecturer CIP/CUN                    |
| Fr. John Francis Adile    | Lecturer CIP/CUN                    |
| Fr. Nicholas Mbogu        | Vice Rector CIP/Lecturer CUN        |
| Fr. Emmanuel Ukata        | Bursar/Lecturer CIP/CUN             |
| Fr. Marcellinus Onyejekwe | Spiritual Director CIP/Lecturer CUN |
| Fr. Raphael Uzoekwe       | Lecturer CIP/CUN                    |
| Fr. Elias Nwokeke         | Lecturer CIP/CUN                    |
| Fr. Venatius Umennebuaku  | Lecturer CIP/CUN                    |

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## **NEKEDE /NGURU -ARO COMMUNITY**

Diocese: Owerri

Year of Foundation: 1997

Juridical Status: House

Postal Address:

1) St Paul's Catholic Parish Umualum Nekede

P.O. Box 328 Owerri, Imo State

2) St Theresa's Catholic Parish Nguru-Aro

P.O. Box 3149, Owerri, Imo State

Specific Mission: Parochial Ministry

## **PERSONNEL**

|                         |                             |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Fr. Wenceslaus Isidienu | Superior/ Pastor Nekede     |
| Fr. George Njoku        | Bursar/ Co-Pastor Nekede    |
| Fr. Desmond Okereke     | Co-Pastor                   |
| Fr Augustine Amadi      | Co-Pastor                   |
| Fr. Jude Anyanwu        |                             |
| Fr. Declan Ugorji       | Pastor St Theresa Nguru-Aro |
| Fr. Christian Okafor    | Vicar/ Co-Pastor Nguru-Aro  |
| Charles Anyanwu         |                             |

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## PROVINCIALATE COMMUNITY

Diocese: Owerri

Year of Foundation: 1978

Juridical Status: House

Postal Address:

1) Claretian Provincial House, Area 'A' New Owerri

P.O. Box 1019 Owerri, Imo State

2) St Maria Gorreti Catholic Parish Ikenegbu, Owerri Imo State

3) Madonna House/IMSU

4) St Anthony Mary Claret Catholic Church

P.O. Box 1019 Owerri, Imo State

Specific Mission: Prov. Admin. /Pastoral/ Education/ Self Reliance Project

### PERSONNEL

|                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| Fr. Anselm Amandikwa    | Superior  |
| Fr. Christian Eze       | Vicar/Pastor Maria Goretti                        |
| Fr. Marcellinus Obilo   | Claret Table Water (Manager)                      |
| Fr. Matthew Iwuagwu     | Bursar  |
| Fr. Cajetan Anyanwu     | INCLA Abuja                                       |
| Fr. Nathaniel Eke       |   |
| Fr. Simeon Nwobi        |   |
| Fr. Philip Ogbonna      | Lecturer CIP/CUN/IMSU                             |
| Fr. Izu Marcel Onyeocha | Lecturer CIP/CUN/IMSU                             |
| Fr. Wenceslaus Madu     | VC, CUN/ Madonna Villa                            |
| Fr. John Ezenwankwor    | Registrar CUN/Lecturer CIP / Madonna Villa        |
| Fr. Polycarp Ugwu       | Lecturer CIP/CUN & Imo Poly / Madonna Villa       |
| Fr. Ernest Offor        | Principal Claret Secondary School Nekede          |
| Fr. Valentine Orazulume | Co-Pastor Maria Goretti                           |
| Fr. Francis Iheanacho   | Co-Pastor Maria Goretti                           |
| Fr. Damian Akujobi      | Confessor, Claret Academy                         |
| Fr. Michael Chima       |   |
| Fr. Gregory Iwu         |   |
| Fr. Emmanuel Anyaebosim | Asst. Manager Claret Academy [Pry.Sch] New Owerri |
| Fr. Paul Onele          | Claret Academy Bursar                             |
| Fr. Dennis Uwakwe       | Chaplain Claret Academy                           |
| Fr. Callistus Emenyonu  | Teacher Claret Academy                            |
| Fr. Japhet Obieloka     | Teacher Claret Academy                            |
| Fr. Patrick Ezeonu      | Sabbatical  |
| Fr. Reginald Nwamadi    | Sabbatical  |
| Fr. Anthony Okolo       |   |
| Fr. Eugene Umeyor       |   |
| Fr. Joseph Udeze        |   |

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## **PORT HARCOURT COMMUNITY**

Diocese: Port Harcourt

Year of Foundation: 2000

Juridical Status: House

Postal Address: St Clement's Catholic Parish, Ozuoba-Akpor  
Port Harcourt, Rivers State

Specific Mission: Parochial and Teaching Apostolate

### **PERSONNEL**

Fr. Perpetus Igwe

Vicar/ Pastor Ozuoba

Fr. Sylvester Omelukam

Bursar/ Co-Pastor Ozuoba

Fr. Bruno Onyekuru

Superior/ Lecturer UNIPORT

Fr. Stanley Ogaraku

Co-Pastor Holy Spirit Church

Fr. Cajetan Ani

Lecturer/CIWA

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## **UTONKON COMMUNITY**

Diocese: Otukpo

Year of Foundation: 1985

Juridical Status: House

Postal Address:

1) St Martin de Porres Catholic Parish Onyagede  
Benue State

2) Heart of Mary Novitiate Utonkon  
P.O. Box 100, Otukpo Benue State

Specific Mission: Formation/ Parochial Ministry and Provincial Farm

### **PERSONNEL**

#### **(a) Novitiate**

Fr. Terence Agu

Superior/Novice Master

Fr. Michael Madunagu

Bursar/Pastoral Year

Fr. Victor Ekwomadu

Vicar/Manager Claret Farm

Novices

#### **(b) St. Martin Parish Onyagede**

Fr. Magnus Igwe

Pastor Onyagede

Fr. Damian Amanfo

Co-Pastor Onyagede/Pastoral Year

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**KWANDE/ FIER COMMUNITY**

Diocese: Shendam, Pankshin and Bauchi Dioceses

Year of Foundation: 2012

Juridical Status: House

Postal Address:

- 1) St John Vianney Catholic Parish Kwande,  
P.O Box 12 Shendam Plateau State
- 2) St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Parish Fier,  
P.O Box 1017 Pankshin

Specific Mission: Parochial Ministry

**PERSONNEL**

**(a) St. John Vianney Parish Kwande**

Fr. Cornelius Nweke

Superior/ Pastor Kwande

Fr. Vincent Okoye

Co-Pastor/ Bursar/Pastoral Year

**(b) St. Vincent de Paul, Fier**

Fr. Anthony Agu

Vicar/ Pastor Fier

Fr. Kenneth Kanwa

Co- Pastor

**(c) Bauchi Diocese**

Most Rev Hilary Dachelem

Fr. Innocent Duru

Fr. Emmanuel Okwara

Fr. Clement Uchendu

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**AONDONA/ UJAMAITYU COMMUNITY**

Diocese: Makurdi Diocese

Year of Foundation: 2015

Juridical Status: House

Postal Address: St. Stephen Catholic Church Asase

c/o Bishop's House

42 Kashim Ibrahim Road

Specific Mission: Parochial Ministry/ Teaching Ministry



## **PERSONNEL**

|                          |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| Fr. Dominic Ukpong       | Pastor, St Stephen Mission,<br>Asase Makurdi /Bursar                                     |
| Fr. Emmanuel Igba        | Co-Pastor, St. Stephen Asase   |
| Fr. Marcellinus Oparaji  | Superior/Rector, Divine Mercy Minor Seminary<br>Mkd/Coordinator North<br>Nigeria Mission |
| Fr. Nicholas Chinweze    | Pastor, St Thomas Mission,Gbonko   |
| Fr. Augustine Ibe        | Pastor, St Edward Mission, Abinsi  |
| Most Rev. Wilfred Anagbe |  |

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## **GHANA MISSION**

### **DAMONGO COMMUNITY**

Diocese: Damongo, Sunyani and Goaso Dioceses

Year of Foundation: 1997

Juridical Status: House

Postal Address:

1. Queen of Peace Catholic Parish Buipe  
P.O Box DM 67, Damongo, Ghana
2. St John Catholic Parish Jamdede  
P.O Box 450 Sunyani, Ghana.
3. St Joseph Catholic Parish Bormaa  
P.O.Box 28 Goaso, Goaso – Ghana.

Specific Mission: Parochial Ministry

## **PERSONNEL**

### **Queen of Peace Buipe**

Fr. Hilary Anadu                      Vicar/ Pastor

Fr. Paschal Diala                      Co –Pastor

### **St John Jamdede, Sunyani**

Fr. Cyriacus Asiegbu                  Superior/ Pastor / Mission Coordinator

Fr. Maximus Okorie                  Co-Pastor Jamdede

Fr. Henry Leka-Ire                      Pastor St. Augustine Rectorate Jinijini/Bursar

### **St. Joseph Bormaa, Goaso<sup>21</sup>**

Fr. Olisaemeka Oranebo              Pastor Goaso

Fr. Charles Okonkwo                  Co-Pastor/Pastoral Year

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<sup>21</sup> We began this mission in 2019.

## **KUMASI COMMUNITY**

Diocese: Obuasi and Kumasi Dioceses  
Year of Foundation: 2009  
Juridical Status: House  
Postal Address: St Lawrence Catholic Parish Akropong  
P.O.Box KS 99 Kumasi  
St Anthony Catholic Parish Agroyesum  
P.O.Box 701 Obuasi  
Obuasi – Ghana

### **PERSONNEL**

#### **St Lawrence Akropong Parish**

|                       |               |
|-----------------------|---------------|
| Fr. Marcellinus Njeze | Pastor/Bursar |
| Fr. Maxwell Nnonyelum | Co-Pastor     |

#### **St Anthony Agroyesum Obuasi**

|                        |                                     |
|------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Fr. Joseph Egbu        | Superior/Pastor                     |
| Fr. Livinus Onwuzurike | Vicar/ Hospital Chaplain/ Co-pastor |

### **RESIDENCES<sup>22</sup>**

#### **(a) St. Martin of Tours, Garba Chede**

Diocese: Jalingo Diocese  
Year of Foundation: 2012  
Juridical Status: Residence  
Postal Address: St. Martin of Tours Catholic Parish Garba Chede  
P.O. Box 110 Jalingo, Taraba State.

#### **Personnel:**

|                    |                                  |
|--------------------|----------------------------------|
| Fr. Josaphat Nwana | Del. Superior/Pastor Garba Chede |
| Fr. Marcus Chukwu  | Co-Pastor Garba Chede            |

#### **(b) St. Michael Parish Kala'a**

Diocese: Maidugiri Diocese  
Year of Foundation: 2012  
Juridical Status: Residence  
Postal Address: St. Michael's Catholic Parish, Kala'a Adamawa State

#### **Personnel:**

|                  |                       |
|------------------|-----------------------|
| Fr. Lawrence Ike | Del. Superior/ Pastor |
|------------------|-----------------------|

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<sup>22</sup> The Diocese of Ogoja took St. Patrick Iyamouyong in June 2020

**(d) Umuchu Residence**

Diocese: Enugu Diocese

Year of Foundation: 1984

Juridical Status: Residence

Postal Address: P.O Box 80 Enugu, Enugu State

**Personnel:**

Fr. Boniface Igboamalu

Del.Superior/ Lecturer

Fr. Joseph Amaegwu

Bursar/Lecturer

Fr. Godwin Uzoma

Lecturer

Fr. Matthew Ogbuka

Lecturer

Fr. Anthony Essien

Retreat and Popular Mission

Fr. Edward Ugorji

Retreat and Popular Mission

**CHAD MISSION**

**Ste. Marie Mere de L'Eglise**

Diocese: Sarh Diocese

Year of Foundation: 2016

Juridical Status: Residence

Postal Address: Paroisse Catholique de Sainte Marie mere de L'Eglise  
Banda B.P 87, Sahr, Sahr, Chad.

**Personnel:**

Fr. Innocent Okafor

Pastor/Sainte Marie mere de L'Eglise

Fr. Patrick Adisionu

Co- Pastor/Bursar

Fr. Casmir Ibe

Pastor Kotougoro Quasi Parish

## **1. GOVERNMENT AND ANIMATION**

The out-going Provincial Government was called to service at the VII Provincial Chapter of 2016. Its Action Plan was informed by the declarations of the same Chapter. This report also takes into cognizance the three processes of transformation as outlined in the XXV General Chapter:

- a. A Congregation Going Forth (Apostolate)
- b. Community of Witnesses and Messengers (Government and Animation/Economy)
- c. Adorers of God in the Spirit (Spirituality and Formation)

For evaluative purposes and assessment, this portion of the Government Report begins with a restating of the section of the Action Plan that deals with governance. Thus, the Provincial Government had as its objectives:

### **First:**

*To enhance the coordination of the prefectures which will enable them to promote the appreciation of our community-oriented lifestyle as a basis for joyful missionary witnessing among the members of the Province.*

### **Lines of Action**

1. The Provincial Government will prepare the Action Plan and make it available to the members of the Province. This document and the annual programme of the activities of the Provincial Government and indeed of the prefectures will aid the community planning and preparing of Community and Personal projects.
2. To promote team spirit among the prefectures and encourage joint activities and collaboration in rendering service to the Province.
3. To enhance the co-ordination of the prefectures through sustaining the regular Provincial Government meetings.
4. The Provincial Government will continue the practice of organizing Permanent Board Meeting twice in a year. The members of the Board remain, Provincial Government

Members, the local superiors, heads of activities and other appointees as deemed necessary by the Provincial Government.

5. The Provincial Government will except for emergencies, organize Provincial Assembly, biennially.
6. To continue the task of prompting the different committees and commissions to discharge the responsibilities entrusted to them.

**Second:**

*To facilitate prompt response by the Provincial Government and or Community Superior in cases of conflicts in communities.*

**Lines of Action**

1. The Provincial Government will continue the practice of canonical visitation and undertake more regular visits of animations to communities.
2. The Provincial Government will organize seminars for the local councils of our communities to promote an in-depth understanding of their responsibilities.
3. To deepen and promote fraternal communion among our members, the Provincial Government will ensure that our common events such as retreats, encounters, assemblies, are glazed by sentiments of fraternal living.
4. The Provincial Government will initiate platforms for effective flow of information between the community superiors and Provincial Superior.

**Third:**

*To launch an organized ministry in the service of the poor.*

**Lines of Action**

1. The Provincial Government in accordance with the resources available to her, will initiate a scheme at the Provincial level to attend to the needs of the needy identified by our missionaries.
2. The Provincial Government will enhance the practice of offering scholarships to some indigent children studying in our schools.

**Fourth:**

*To see to the acceleration of the process for the realization of the North Nigeria Delegation.*

**Lines of Action**

1. The Provincial Government will relentlessly continue to lay the foundations aimed at the realization of the northern delegation, pending its declaration by the General Government.
2. In addition to strengthening the dialogue with confreres on integration in the northern missions, the Provincial Government will continue to promote indigenous vocations from the northern missions

**1.1. Action Plan and Activities of the Province**

The VII Provincial Chapter was celebrated from 20th through 25th June 2016. With the *Evangelii Gaudium* of Pope Francis and the Declaration of the XXV General Chapter as a guide, the theme of the Chapter was: “*Strengthening Missionary Community as Basis for the Joy of the Gospel.*” In keeping with the Chapter Declarations and Resolutions the Provincial Council swung into action and by January 2017, generated the Provincial Action Plan. This document which is intended to guide the Province for six years (2016 - 2022) has largely forged the blueprint for the attainment of the objectives set at the Chapter. Details of the government’s adherence to its prescriptions form the basis of this report.

**1.2 Functioning of Government**

The regular meetings of Provincial Council facilitated by the nearness of the consultors to the Curia have proved effective. These periodic plenary sessions have helped in addressing particularly, some crucial issues that require urgent attention. The Provincial Government has maintained the visit of animation which has helped in resolving issues promptly in the communities.

Similarly, the biannual Permanent Board meetings attended by superiors and heads of activities has been fittingly held and well attended by the concerned persons. One of the

obvious fruits of this meeting is the promotion of communion and fraternity among members. It has been an avenue for briefing the confreres on the activities of the Provincial Council but also a medium for the receiving of suggestions, feedbacks, and information on the life of the communities, their mission and apostolate.

For enhanced community animation, the Provincial Government organized workshops and meeting for the local superiors of the province during this sexennium, taking into cognizance the theme of the VII Provincial Chapter: *“Strengthening Missionary Community as Basis for the Joy of the Gospel”*. To actualize this objective, the Government resolved to organize a meeting with the local superiors at least twice a year.

The activities of the Prefectures are generally promoted in the spirit of teamwork with the animation of the Provincial.

### 1.3 Structure of the Government

The structure of the Provincial Government from 2016 - 2022 is as follows:

| S/N | Office/ Prefecture                        | Name                       |
|-----|---|----------------------------|
| 1.  | Provincial Superior                       | Very Rev. Fr. Simeon Nwobi |
| 2.  | Provincial Vicar/ Prefect of Spirituality | Fr. Perpetus Igwe          |
| 3.  | Prefect of Formation                      | Fr. Kenneth Oguejiofor     |
| 4.  | Prefect of Apostolate                     | Fr. Anthony Azinta         |
| 5.  | Prefect of Economy                        | Fr. Nathaniel Eke          |
| 6.  | Provincial Secretary (2016-2017)          | Fr. Stanislaus Ekwujuru    |
| 7.  | (2017-2022)                               | Fr. Matthew Iwuagwu        |

The address of the Curia remains: Claretian Provincialate, Claret Academy Street, Area “A” New Owerri, PMB 1019 Owerri, Imo State Nigeria., Residing at the Curia at present are the Provincial Superior, Prefect of Economy, and the Provincial Secretary. Since the other

members of the Provincial Government do not live in distant communities, the Government meetings have been frequent and timely.

Apart from the Provincial Government and the Permanent Board, the establishment of Commissions, Councils and Boards has helped immensely in the joint coordination of the affairs of the Province, giving room for wider participation in the process of decision making. During the sexennium, the Provincial Council created two more commissions. They are the Charity and Scholarship Commission and Biblical Commission. With the recent approval of the Claretian University of Nigeria (CUN), the CUN Governing Council was also formed. The Vocation council was expanded to include the Youth Ministry. The Lay Formation and Lay Evangelization Councils were merged. The Commissions and Councils are thus:

### **1.3.1 Commissions**

- i. On-going Formation/ Quinquennium Commission
- ii. Justice and Peace Commission
- iii. Charity and Scholarship Commission
- iv. Biblical Commission

### **1.3.2 Councils**

- i. Formation Council
- ii. Economic Council/ Retirement Scheme
- iii. Pastoral Council
- iv. Youth and Vocation Council
- v. CIP Governing Council
- vi. CUN Governing Council
- vii. Project Committee
- viii. Lay Formation/ Lay Evangelization Council



### **1.3.3 Boards**

- i. Provincial School Board
- ii. CLACOM Board

These bodies ought to meet frequently, at the behest of their respective leaderships to discuss issues pertaining to a particular dimension of the life of the Province and her members. While some have statutorily met and carried out effectively and efficiently, the tasks proper to them, others struggle with efficiency in their tasks.

### **1.4 Office for the Protection of Minors and Vulnerable Adults**

With the approval of the Provincial Protocols for the Protection of Minors and Vulnerable Adults by the General Government on 20 July 2021, the Provincial Council established the Office for the Protection of Minors and Vulnerable Adults. As indicated in the Provincial Directory, the contacts of the confreres in charge of this office are readily available.

### **1.5 The Provincial Curia**

It is worthy of note that in 2017, Fr. Stanislaus Ekwujuru, cmf, the former Provincial Secretary was sent to Rome for Specialization. Consequent upon this development, the Provincial Council appointed Fr. Matthew Iwuagwu, cmf, as the new Provincial Secretary.

The secretariat has continued to promote communion among the confreres through its efforts in information dissemination, keeping members abreast with realities within and outside of the Province. The tri-annual bulletin, the website, WhatsApp, email, bulk SMS have proved effective for sharing information and building bridges among us. However, we are wary of falling into 'digital worldliness' knowing that we are evangelizers rather than mere consumers. The close contact with the General Government through social media platforms has been evident in the prompt dissemination and publishing of documents, reports, and letters in our provincial news bulletin and other platforms of communication.

These are the official Communication Portals:

- Website – [www.cmf-nigeria.org](http://www.cmf-nigeria.org)
- News Bulletin – CMF News

- WhatsApp – CMF East Nigeria News and CMF East Nigeria
- SMS – CMF East NG
- Email – cmfeastng@gmail.com
- YouTube – Claretian Missionaries East Nigeria Province (inactive for some time now)

While so much is done in the various places of apostolates and little is reported, we encourage the members to always feel free to send in information from the pastoral positions and areas of apostolate.

During this sexennium, the Secretariat organized a workshop for the community secretaries. This event was inspired by the training organized by the General Secretariat for Provincial Secretaries and deeply rooted in the action plan of the VII Provincial Chapter ‘to strengthen the animation of local councils in view of enhanced community animation’ (*On Spirituality*,3).The workshop aided the community secretaries discover their roles in the community by helping to promote better flow of information between them and the secretariat and to ‘reinforce the sense of belonging and community co-responsibility’ (MS 48,3).

### **1.6 Canonical Visitation and Visits of Animation**

From April 3 to June 30, 2017, Fr. Artur Teixeira, CMF, the then General Prefect of Apostolate, made his canonical visitation to the Province “in the name of the Superior General,” VRF. Mathew Vattamattam. (Dir.475)

Beginning with our missions in Ghana, through the Missions in the margins of the Sahara Desert in Chad to the challenging missions in the Northern and Southeastern part of Nigeria, Fr. Teixeira resiliently participated in the lives of the different communities. Regular visits of animation by members of the General Government were also occasions for them to share in the life and mission of our organism while immensely contributing to its growth. Through constant visits of animation by other members of the General Government, the Province has experienced fraternity and collaboration and shared in the life of the Congregation at large.

In the same vein, the Provincial Superior carried out the Canonical Visitations to all the communities as required by the mandate of his tenure (cf. Dir. 473). The different prefectures periodically carried out visits of animation to the communities, formation houses and places of apostolates during the sexennium. These have been opportunities to strengthen the houses in the call to witness to Christ by words and ways of life. In some houses, certain challenges that come with community life were addressed.

### **1.7 Episcopal Ordination of Bishop Hilary Dachelem, Cmf**

The Lord has been generous to us as a Province, in quick succession; two of our members were elevated to the esteemed office of the episcopate. The latest being the appointment Most Rev Hilary Dachelem as the Bishop of Bauchi. He was consecrated and installed as the bishop of the diocese on 17 August 2017. The Province gave him a befitting reception. We appreciate our active support and participation in the events and urge continuous prayers for Bishops Wilfred Anagbe and Hilary Dachelem in their challenging tasks as shepherds in their respective dioceses.

### **1.8 North Nigeria Mission**

With the appointment of Bishop Dachelem who was the Coordinator of the Mission in Northern Nigeria, the Provincial Council after pertinent deliberations and consultations appointed Fr Boniface Akara, cmf, as the new Mission Coordinator. To facilitate the actualization of the North Nigeria Delegation, pending its declaration, the Council also appointed the following confrères as his close collaborators:

- Fr Marcellinus Oparaji – Vicar
- Fr Jude Anyanwu – Secretary
- Fr Cornelius Nweke – Bursar

However, Fr. Marcellinus Oparaji was appointed the coordinator of the Mission when Fr. Boniface Akara was assigned to St Patrick Parish Iyamouyong. The major superiors of both organisms in Nigeria have been in constant dialogue as regards the actualization of the North Nigeria Delegation. Albeit the rise in the insecurity situation namely, Boko Haram terrorism, Fulani herdsmen insurgency, banditry and kidnapping in the country have hampered its

realization. Nevertheless, despite these challenges our missionaries continue to witness in these areas that are at the periphery of the society. We hope that as the situation abates, this noble dream will be realized.

In line with the Action Plan for the sexennium, the Provincial Government continues to promote indigenous vocations from the northern missions. As such, a vocations office was opened at our mission in Kwande, where the vocations director coordinates the activities of recruitment of young vocations from the northern part of Nigeria. Each year, candidates from this part of the country are admitted into the Congregation.

### **1.9 Relationships of the Major Organism with the Institutions of the Congregation**

Within this sexennium, the Provincial Government has maintained a cordial and fraternal relationship with the local communities and persons. It has also strengthened the fluid and cordial relationship with the General Government. The letters of Fr. General were duly circulated and studied by the Province members. Similarly, the subsidies from the Generalate were effectively channeled to their intended purposes. The animation visits by members of the General Government within the sexennium have helped to reinvigorate the Province as a whole and as communities.

The Province maintains a cordial relationship with other organisms of the Congregation. The Provincial Government has sustained the existing fraternal relationship with other major organisms and has even sent personnel to other organisms in need. Being the only Province in Africa at present, the Province never ceases to contribute her own quota at the ACLA and at other Interprovincial encounters.

### **1.10 The Relationship and Collaboration with Other Institutions**

We have been collaborating with the Bishops of the Dioceses where our missionaries are working and are ready to expand our horizon. We notice a reluctance by many of the ordinaries to sign contracts in the places that we work. Our confreres serve in the animation teams in the dioceses and ecclesiastical conferences and hold offices in the conference of Religious at local or national levels. For instance:

- a) Fr. Simeon Nwobi – President National Conference of Religious (Men) (ended his tenure in 2022).
- b) Fr Wenceslaus Madu – Consultor, Archdiocese of Owerri.
- c) Fr Christian Eze – Vicar for the Religious, Archdiocese of Owerri.
- d) Fr. Cletus Obasi - Vicar for the Religious, Diocese of Enugu.
- e) Fr. Anthony Agu - Consultor/ Vicar for the Religious, Diocese of Pankshin.
- f) Fr. Cornelius Nweke - Vicar for the Religious, Diocese of Shendam.
- g) Fr. Marcus Chukwu - Vicar for the Religious, Diocese of Jalingo.
- h) Fr. Bruno Onyekuru – Consultor/Vicar for the Religious, Diocese of Port Harcourt.
- i) Fr. Marcellinus Oparaji – Rector, Divine Mercy Minor Seminary, Diocese of Makurdi.
- j) Fr. Olisaemeka Oranebo – Consultor, Diocese of Goaso.
- k) Fr. Hilary Anadu - Member of the Economic Council, Diocese of Damongo.
- l) Fr. Kingsley Maduiké – President Priests/Religious Association, Archdiocese of Owerri.
- m) Fr. Cyriacus Asiegbu – Member of the Diocesan Senate, Diocese of Sunyani.

Warm relationships exist between the Province and individual religious congregations in the country. We are well represented in the umbrella body that unites the consecrated persons in Nigeria. Membership to this body has helped us in the areas of collaborative service to the local church and in self-evaluation of our witnessing to the Gospel.

Within the Claretian family, we collaborate with the Claretian Sisters. Some of the Claretian Sisters and other religious sisters like Holy Family Sisters of the Needy, Saviourite Sisters and others also teach in our schools and work at the CUN clinic. The lay apostolate has received greater boost especially as regards the Lay Claretian Movement, Immaculate Heart of Mary Devotion and the Claretian Youth Ministry.

### **1.11 The Government of the Minor Organisms (Houses, Residences)**

The local superiors, who are designated by the Provincial Government, have the task of presiding over each of the houses of the Province as a sign of communion and bond of unity in service of our mission (cf. CC 102-110). Working as a team, the Local Superior, Vicar and

Econome, help in the administration of the affairs of the local community. It is important to note that the Provincial Government has constantly insisted on the need to have community project, regular community recollections and regular plenary sessions. There has been an improvement in this regard.

The attitude of most members of the Province to their assignments is quite commendable as many respond promptly to their assignments. It is sad however, that there are still a few members who resist assignments and determine where they want to reside and what they want to do. This awkward reality poses a great challenge to our missionary witnessing and availability.

## **2. PREFECTURE OF APOSTOLATE**

### **2.1. Prefecture of Apostolate**

**Objective:** *To Radiate the Joy of the Gospel in the Areas of Our Apostolate.*

Our missionaries are to work in line with the Provincial Pastoral Plan in the places they are sent to minister to Christ's faithful.

**First:** To review the current Provincial Pastoral Plan in accordance with the signs of time

#### **Line of Action**

1. The Provincial Government will see to the revision of the present Provincial Pastoral Plan to respond to the present needs of the missions and apostolate we undertake.

**Second:** To strengthen the popular mission of the Province

1. The Provincial Government will continue encouraging confrères who have the gift of popular mission to undertake such in line with the laid down guidelines of the congregation.
2. To promote a sense of creative fidelity in order deepen our missionary identity.
3. To revive mission aid / preaching in the Nigerian missions and dioceses.
4. Encourage shared mission and ready to help in the difficult missions in Tchad and Ghana.
5. To promote inter provincial exchange of personnel including students who will study in the different countries and languages for deeper appreciation of the universality of the Congregation and effective response to the demands of the missions.
6. To further incorporate lay evangelizers (Lay Claretians) in our missionary exploits.

**Third:** That more personnel be trained for our educational projects.

### **Lines of Action**

1. The Provincial Government will further the training of our confreres in view of working in our schools and handling other educational related projects in the Province.

**Fourth:** To encourage our Claretian authors to publish as much as possible through our Claretian Communications (CLACOM) outfit.

### **Lines of Action**

1. During the Sexennium, the Provincial Government will encourage our confreres who publish books, to do so as much as possible through the CLACOM.
2. The Provincial Government will not relent in her efforts towards raising CLACOM to enviable heights.
3. Structures will be put in place for effective and efficient execution of the tasks entrusted to the CLACOM outfit.

**Fifth:** That there be better co-ordination and organization of charity works in the Province.

### **Lines of Action**

1. While sustaining her support and assistance to the poor, the Provincial Government will establish a team to facilitate and co-ordinate a central charity system.
2. The Provincial Government will continue to encourage the Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation Commission to be effective and adequately carry out her role in the Province.

**Sixth:** To enhance the Youth and Vocation ministry

### **Lines of Action**

1. The Provincial Government will further prepare more personnel for youth and children ministry.



2. To seek to develop guideline for the process of initiation in the faith for children and youth.
3. To strengthen the secretariat for youth and vocation ministry

### **2.1.1 Provincial Pastoral Plan.**

The last Provincial Chapter decided to review the Pastoral Plan of the Province in order to respond to the present needs of the missions and apostolate we undertake. The Prefect of Apostolate and the Pastoral Commission who are responsible for this task are currently reviewing it and a document may be published in the nearest future. Besides, there is a Provincial Action Plan which is prepared and made available to all the members of the Province.

### **2.1.2 Parish Ministry.**

Our Province is gifted with vibrant and dynamic missionaries who show commitment in their areas of apostolate. We are engaged in parochial ministries, school apostolate, youth ministry, teaching apostolate, vocation and human promotion, lay movements and the media. In these areas, we radiate and share the joy which comes from knowing Christ Jesus (cf. Jn 10:10; Phil 3:8), while following our Claretian mode of bringing people close to the author of life and joy (cf. Acts 3:15; Heb 12:2). (cf. *VII Provincial Chapter 2016*). In doing so, we become true witnesses and messengers of the joy of the gospel - *evangelii gaudium*. Generally, we are glad about the positive feedbacks we receive from the lay faithful about many of our missionaries.

During this period under review, from Accra to Afara, churches have been dedicated, from Sarh to Fier pastoral visits have been celebrated, from Kala'a to Kumasi popular missions have been preached. Notably, the confreres working at St. Dominic Catholic Afara, St Peter Garriki Enugu, St. Mary Parish Amurri, Holy Family Otolu Nnewi Diocese and St. Anthony Mary Claret Church New Owerri have dedicated their churches. Several parishes witnessed the pastoral and canonical visits of the local ordinaries and the Provincial Superior respectively.

We thank our brothers who labour zealously in the missions especially in the peripheries and various areas of apostolate. We pray for constancy in missionary zeal as men who adore God. (cf.MS.73)

However, we appeal that we endeavour to avoid temptations and spiritual ailments that afflict our life and mission especially pastoral individualism. We can overcome this when the centre of gravity of our apostolates shifts from personal glory to God's glory.

### **2.1.3 Encounter of Missionaries in the Peripheries.**

From the 28th of May to 2nd of June 2018, Frs. Lawrence Ike and Casmir Ibe, cmff, participated in the encounter organized by the General government for missionaries working in the margins of the society in faraway Guatemala. It was an enriching experience for them.

### **2.1.4 Education Apostolate.**

One of the structures of evangelization is education (cf. *Dir. 118*). Our Education ministry is making giant strides. This administration has continued to strengthen the education wing of our missionary witnessing. Much as we do not rule out the economic benefit from this ministry, our unrelenting commitment towards the eradication of ignorance and advancement of the human person is daily receiving more attention. Successes recorded in the National examinations in all our schools are attestations of the hard work of those in charge of our schools, the staff and the students. We wish to encourage them to strive even harder with a spirit of excellence.

The General Government gave us loans to complete the boarding facilities at Claret Academy Secondary School New Owerri. The Claret Academy Nursery/Primary School New Owerri has been rebranded and renovations were made. The buildings of secondary schools in Nekede, Amurri and Garriki are completed. Recently we received the Mission Aid Fund to equip the laboratories of the Garriki and Amurri schools. Some of our confreres through the support of their friends and benefactors have greatly assisted our schools. We encourage this spirit of generosity to the Congregation. It is our intention and purpose to properly equip our schools to compete with the best in the world.

As part of efforts to maintain an impeccable standard amidst global educational challenges, those in charge of our schools, participated in the Claretian Encounter for Educators in Santiago, Spain (November 2018 and February 2019). Some of the confreres are studying in the local universities to specialise in different courses in education.

### 2.1.5 The Statistics of our Schools.

| S/N | School  | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 |
|-----|---|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| 1.  | Claret Academy (Nur/Pry School) New Owerri.     | 503  | 462  | 496  | 565  | 514  | 647  |
| 2.  | Claret Academy (Secondary School) New Owerri.   | 500  | 520  | 535  | 540  | 560  | 656  |
| 3.  | Claret Nur/Primary School Nekede.               | 710  | 735  | 667  | 676  | 610  | 616  |
| 4.  | Claret Secondary School Nekede.                 | 311  | 308  | 321  | 305  | 287  | 292  |
| 5.  | Claret Comprehensive Sec. School Amurri, Enugu. | 113  | 117  | 116  | 107  | 113  | 106  |
| 6.  | Claret Academy Secondary School Garriki, Enugu. | 68   | 109  | 146  | 182  | 201  | 230  |

### 2.1.6 Scholarship Scheme.

The scholarship scheme which is for indigent but intelligent students in our schools has been extended to all our schools especially those in rural areas like Amurri and Nekede. This is part of our Option for the Poor. Our solidarity with the poor becomes true when our spending has reasonable resonance to the life of the ordinary people around us.

### 2.1.7 Claretian University.

One of resolutions of the VII Provincial Chapter is “facilitate the smooth take- off of the Imo Claretian University” (p.41). We did not rest on our oars as far as the Claretian University is concerned. In November 2017, Fr Wenceslaus Madu was sent to Brazil to commence discussion with the Provincial of Brazil and Management of the *Centro Universitário Claretiano*. It was very fruitful as some agreements were reached. In January [2018] this year, the Brazilian team represented by Fr Luiz Botteon and Evandro Ribeiro came to Nigeria, and we have signed a certain level agreement of collaboration with them. During the visit we reviewed the entire plan and also organized an unveiling ceremony/ public lecture on the proposed Claretian University project.

The General Government aware of the enormity of the project raised some grey areas that needed to be properly addressed:

1. Proper Strategic Planning.
2. Contracts/Agreements with the parties involved
3. Finance.

The extraordinary meeting of the confreres we had on 30 April 2018 gave us a clearer picture of what was involved, and we appreciate everyone for the quick response and contributions.

The academic brief, master plan and the university law were successfully submitted to the National Universities Commission (NUC) and the certificate of approval was issued in due time. The Provincial Council continues to be appreciative of the untiring efforts of Fr. Wenceslaus Madu and the Steering Committee in the actualization of this dream. It is a dream birthed in our times.

The Provincial made a presentation of this project before the General Government in Rome in November 2018. The project was then given the final approval of the General Government while Very Rev. Fr. Henry Omonisaye, cmf was assigned to accompany us through the process. On Wednesday 3 February 2021 the Federal Executive Council of Nigeria approved the Claretian University of Nigeria and on 8 April 2021, the minister of education, Adamu Adamu presented us with the Provisional License. The University started its academic activities in November 2021 with 71 students.

### **2.1.8 Bible Ministry**

“The ministry of the Word belongs to the core of our charismatic experience; it is a link between mission and life” (MS 44). During this period under review, our Mission in Ghana launched a bible formation programme for the youth. The four-day event was held on April 27, 2017, at the Queen of Peace Parish Buipe, Damongo Diocese in Ghana. It happened to be the first of its kind in the area.

The First Biblical Animation of Nigeria and Cameroon was held at the Ladies of St. Mulumba Centre, New Owerri, from November 7 to 10, 2017. The theme was: *The Biblical Inspiration of Our Life and Pastoral Ministry*. It was a programme facilitated by the General Consultor in charge of the Bible Ministry, Fr Henry Omonisaye, cmf. The fruits of this seminar are already

witnessed in some of our parishes and formation houses with the enthronement of the bible. The participants in the seminar also included our collaborators in the mission like the Claretian Sisters, the Lay Claretians and other lay faithful.

The Claretian Communications [CLACOM] is being revamped for greater effectiveness. Studios have been set up in Attakwu and at Claret Academy to facilitate the Claret Bible/Music Ministry. Fr Hilarion Ekeanyanwu, cmf had been tasked with the prospects of establishing the *Claret Radio*. However, this could not materialise.

#### **2.1.9 Mission Procure.**

The Mission Procure of the Province is currently being repositioned in line with the Congregational procedures and international best practices and thus be relevant in the face incessant global challenges. The director and the mission procure team have been coordinating and organizing its activities. They made effort to revitalize our local mission appeal programme albeit some of the dioceses are reluctant in the area of collaboration. The Mission Procure is an area that those in charge of this area of our apostolate need to align with Congregational best practices to avoid fossilizing over time.

#### **2.1.10 Encounter for Workers**

Part of the proposals at the VII Provincial Chapter is that workers in our establishments be given due pastoral care. (*VII Provincial Chapter Declaration* pg.33). The Provincial Government organized an encounter for our workers especially those who work in our schools. This encounter laid emphasis on spiritual and pastoral care. It was also an opportunity for our workers to know that we value and appreciate them. For convenience, the encounter was split in two zones: Owerri and Enugu. The priests in charge of the schools helped to anchor the programme in conjunction with the Prefectures of Spirituality and Apostolate.

#### **2.1.11 Claret Table Water.**

The sachet and bottled water factory plant were initially located together at Abakuru community, opposite Imo Polytechnic. In May 2017 the Sachet Water Plant was relocated to the Provincialate premises and recently the bottled water production section. This is to

minimize the cost of production, transportation and distribution of the finished product to the majority of consumers who are predominantly located around World Bank Estate and New Owerri. The factory has one bottle line machine, six sachet machines, three trucks, four buses and three tricycle trucks. Presently, it has in its payroll thirty-five workers. *Claret Water* is approved by the Standards Organization of Nigeria (SON). Despite its gradual growth in facility and production, the factory is not without challenges. The province is committed to its expansion in provision of production-machines and vehicles for distribution and for it to be a major source of income. We sincerely thank Fr. Marcellinus Obilo for the good job he is doing at the factory.

#### **2.1.12 Vocation and Youth Ministry.**

As a Congregation 'going forth', ready to walk forward, open up and breaking new frontiers (cf. MS 66,67), the Youth Ministry has been reorganized to position it for missionary realities in the province. A team of priests are responsible for the Youth/Vocation Ministry led by the coordinator – Fr. Paul Onele, CMF. Hence, a Claretian National Youth Convention was held in Shendam, Plateau State from August 29 - September 3, 2017. In the same vein, the Youth Ministry also held a National Convention in Berekum, Sunyani, Ghana from September 24 to September 26, 2021. The turnouts of young people at the events were unprecedented. The Youth Ministry had set aside the national convention to be a triennial event while the zonal conventions will be held biennially. Due to the increased insecurity situation in the country, this idea was temporarily shelved. We cannot forget the different efforts put in by our confreres in organizing children and young people in our parishes and different areas of apostolate. Different parishes undertook seminars, retreats, excursions, talent shows and pilgrimages for the spiritual and temporal development of our youth. We appreciate the support of our priests in this regard.

The Youth and Vocation Ministry in the Province has maintained a close contact and collaboration with the General Prefecture of Youth and Vocation Ministry in Rome. We have contributed articles to "*The Claretian Mission*" a publication of the General Government as well as participated in various online courses/programmes packaged for all the animators

of the Youth and Vocation Ministry from the different Organisms of the Congregation. The fruit of these programme has led to the formation of the *Young Claret Children Circle*.

As a nation we are blessed with abundant vocation, however we still insist on proper and attentive assessment of young people's sincere motivation to join the Congregation. Aware of the current situation in the world and in line with the consistent teaching of the Church, we cannot admit to the Congregation those who practise homosexuality, present deep-seated homosexual tendencies or support the so-called "gay culture".

The office of the Vocation Ministry conducted several vocation conferences in Enugu, Owerri, Kwande and Ghana. The prospective candidates were accompanied through the conferences animated by the team of the vocation council. They were also given the opportunity to be accompanied by the Vocation Director on arrangements through personal contacts, phone calls, letters and emails. The shortage of vocations to the brotherhood, has remained a perennial challenge.

### **2.1.13 Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation**

The Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation (JPIC) Commission in the Province is still active, thanks to the cooperation of Province members who collaborate in the Justice and Peace advocacy wherever they are working. As agents of justice, peace and human rights, we should individually and collectively work towards the development of the human person. The JPIC Commission in the Province participated actively in an International workshop organized by *VIVAT* International and locally anchored by the Spiritans. The JPIC team has collaborated with the Solidarity and Mission (SOMI) team of the congregation and participated in its campaigns and programmes. This is one of areas we need to improve on, to work as a missionary community through networks of solidarity with the poor and create strategies that respond to urgent needs in our communities.

### **2.1.14 Collaborative Ministry.**

Our openness to the collaborative and universal mission of the Congregation has been very pronounced. Our missionaries are working in different organisms such as: the Independent Delegation of West Nigeria, St. Charles Lwanga Delegation East Africa, Delegation of

Cameroon, Equatorial Guinea, Haiti, the Antilles and Italy. Back home the Claretian Missionary Sisters collaborate with us in parish work, Congregational activities and events and render some medical assistance. Some of our students need to be sent to other organisms in view of the Universal Mission and interculturality.

#### **2.1.15 Claretian Family.**

Our Congregation is a family, “hewn as it were from the same rock” (cf. Is 51:1). The burden of one is the burden of all – *unus pro omnibus, omnes pro uno*. As stated in the circular letter of the Provincial in March 2018, “those in dire need especially with regard to their parents (father and/or mother) should not hesitate to approach the Province for a dialogue. (*also cf. VII Provincial Chapter Declaration pg.33*) ‘This is how we know what love is: he gave his life for us. We, too, ought to give our life for our brothers and sisters’ (1 Jn 3:16).

The Claretian Family team embarked on the task of visiting the families of our confreres who are on mission outside the country and also those of our deceased confreres. Visits such as these in the name of the Congregation strengthen the bond of unity that exists between our biological families and the Claretian family.

#### **2.1.16 Conferences Attended.**

During the sexennium, the prefect of apostolate has been able to attend and represent the Province at these encounters:

- 1) ACLA: African Claretians encounter held in Kenya 2018.
- 2) Organized Encounters for the Lay Claretians.
- 3) Online programmes for Prefects of Apostolate.

## **2.2 SPECIFIC MISSIONS.**

Within the sexennium, the Provincial Government through the Prefecture of Apostolate has worked hard to animate the missions entrusted to the Province. While noting that our mission positions all suffice to answer the name mission, it is pertinent to note some more challenging missions that we have undertaken.



### 2.2.1 Chad Mission.

Chad is a Muslim dominated country. It is comparatively a poor country with very harsh weather conditions. The level of illiteracy is at about 75 percent of the total population. Poor environment. Our Missionaries work in the Diocese of Sarh, located in Southern part of Chad. This diocese has a boundary with Central African Republic in the south, and surrounded by other Chadian dioceses to the East, West and North. We are in charge of two missions in the diocese. one parish (Paroisse Ste. Marie Mère de L'Eglise or St. Mary Mother of the Church Parish) and one quasi-parish (Vicariat St. Mère Thérèse de Calcutta or St. Mother Theresa of Calcutta quasi-parish, Kotoungoro).

**Banda Parish:** The parish is located in one of the quarters in the town called Banda. The Claretians began to run the parish on October 1, 2015. The parish has a population of about 5,000 Christians and 400 catechumens. There are two village outstations attached to this parish. The parish runs an associated catholic school that is managed by the diocese in partnership with the government. Presently, there are two Claretians (Fr. Innocent Okafor and Fr. Patrick Adisionu) who work in this parish.

**Kotoungoro Quasi Parish:** The quasi-parish centre is located in an interior village called Kotoungoro. Kotoungoro is about 38 kilometres from the town of Sarh. The Claretians took over the responsibility of this mission on 8<sup>th</sup> of May 2022. The quasi-parish is so vast with about 40 small village out-stations. The major missionary work in this quasi parish is primary evangelization. Two Claretians are in view to work fully in this quasi-parish. Presently, Fr. Casmir Ibe is the priest-in-charge of the mission.

Because of the nature of the place, our missionary work in both places cut across a lot of social and pastoral works. In addition to pastoral or parochial activities we engage in different social works that aim at assisting and giving hope to the poor, the illiterates and those living in different peripheries of life. Hence through the assistance of the General Government, we have been able to construct schools, give medical assistance, form and animate youths through encounters, assist poor single mothers, help widows and orphans.

### **2.2.1.1 Strengths and Achievements**

1. We have been doing our pastoral work according to the rules and regulations of the diocese and the Claretian style of life. We celebrate the sacraments; engage in catechesis and formation of the catechists; teach religious and moral instructions in primary schools.
2. We engage in social works from time to time, especially in giving assistance to the poor and needy, thanks to the assistance from the General Government and their collaborators.
3. We have created schools in the interior villages and helped in the development of village/community schools. In fact, we have been able to construct classroom blocks in some of the village schools. These social works are continuous.
4. We have assisted poor widows and single mothers in their economic lives.
5. We engage in youth animations in the form of youth encounters, youth formations and skill acquisitions.
6. During the Covid-19 Pandemic, we assisted to alleviate the sufferings of the most vulnerable. Through the help of Santiago and German Provinces we were able to provide the basic needs for the most vulnerable around our parish.

### **2.2.1.2 Relationship with the Diocese of Sarh.**

Our relationship with the diocese has been cordial. There has always been an atmosphere of friendliness between us and other pastoral workers in the diocese. Our collaborators in the ministry give positive feedbacks about the work we do. This is evident in the speed with which they respond in cooperating with our pastoral initiatives. The joy at which they bring to us the little they have (e.g. natural food items and grains) is much encouragement for us.

### **2.2.1.3 Relationship with the Province and the General Government.**

This relationship has been cordial. In addition to oral and media communications, there is regular report from Chad to the Provincial Curia in Owerri, Nigeria. Besides the canonical visit and visits of animation, the mission receives regular financial assistance from the Province and the General Government through subventions and mass stipends. The mission has always felt much of the impact of the General Prefecture of Apostolate and that of the

General Procure office in Rome, in the aspect of Encounters, formations and funding of the mission projects. We are especially grateful for these cordialities.

#### **2.2.1.4 Challenges.**

1. Harsh weather conditions and poor finance.
2. Strong Islamic influence and anti-Christian policies that threaten the Christian existence in Chad.
3. High level of illiteracy and language barrier (not many Christians in Chad have formal education as to understand French). Knowledge of the local language is still vital for grassroots evangelization. Since there are many who do not understand the French language, the missionaries are still not conversant with the local language

#### **2.2.1.5 Some Suggestions.**

1. Efforts to get vocations in Chad should be reviewed.
2. Support should continue to be given by both the General and Provincial government to the personnel in Chad.
3. Workshops, pastoral encounters and other refreshing courses will assist missionaries to function better.
4. The Provincial Government should continue to send students to Chad to have missionary experience as well as for language course in preparation for future missionary work.

### **2.2.2 Ghana Mission**

Between 1995 and 1996 the first Nigeria Claretians were already in Ghana for a feasibility study. The actual mission work commenced in 1997 at Our Lady Queen of Peace Buipe. The Bishop of Damongo, Most Rev. Philip Naameh was the first local ordinary who invited and entrusted a mission to us in his diocese.

Presently we work in Kumasi Archdiocese (St. Lawrence Akropong). We are also in Obuasi (St. Anthony Parish Agroyesum), in Sunyani Diocese (St John's Parish Jamdede and St Augustine Rectorate, Jinijini) Damongo Diocese (Our Lady Queen of Apostles Parish Buipe) and Goaso Diocese (St. Joseph Bormaa).

#### **a. Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish Buipe (Damongo Diocese)**

Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish is situated in Savanna Region formerly Northern Region. It is also Muslim populated area. Buipe has become a District Capital and it is fast growing in terms of government presence, the District Hospital under construction and other structural development.

Our mission in Ghana started in this Parish in 1997 with the arrival of Frs. Martin Okoro and Augustine Amadi from Nigeria through the instrumentality of Bishop Philip Naameh of Damongo diocese now the Metropolitan Archbishop of Tamale and the President of Ghana Catholic Bishops Conference. A challenging mission, however, our missionaries have done a lot in the development of people and the Church structure.

**Achievements in this mission include:**

- Complete renovation of the church building.
- Marian Grotto built.
- Establishment of rice and corn mills for women
- Fencing of the church compound is in progress; store for the youth is still under construction.

**b. St. Lawrence Parish Akropong. (Archdiocese of Kumasi)**

Our first mission expansion in Ghana after Buipe was to the Archdiocese of Kumasi, the heartland of the ancient and powerful Ashanti kingdom. This came about when the then Archbishop of Kumasi, Most Rev. Peter Kwasi Sarpong, got enthused by his encounter with our brothers in Buipe and subsequently sought missionary collaboration with us. This move came to fruition in August 2001 when the Parish of St. Lawrence Akropong was entrusted to the care of the Claretians.

St Lawrence Akropong is a semi urban parish. It has experienced development in both human and physical structures due to the witnessing of our missionaries both in the past and present. Our missionaries have really worked to keep the parish to its current level. The parish will celebrate her twenty-five years in September 2022.

**Apostolate:** Parochial ministry and school apostolate.

**c. St. John Jamdede. (Sunyani Diocese)**

St John Parish Jamdede in Sunyani Diocese was established in 2008. Claretians are the first missionary congregation to work in this place. Since its inception, we have worked diligently to develop this parish both spiritually and temporally. It had 13 outstations but currently it has 6 outstations. Three of the outstations were joined to a nearby parish – St Matthew Nyamebekyere- managed by the diocesan priests and four were carved out to form St Augustine Rectorate Jinijini under Claretian Missionaries. It is a rural agrarian parish.

**Apostolate:** Parochial Ministry

**Achievements:**

- The church building at the main station is in progress.
- The parish has bought the second car for the pastoral activities of the priests in the parish despite the hardship in the country.
- The parish has done the ceiling at Koraso Church through one of the philanthropists.
- The parish has started molding blocks for new Church building at Domfete station.
- It has given birth to St. Augustine Rectorate Jinijini and has helped in equipping the mission house.

**Challenges:**

- There is no completed Church building in the parish except Koraso outstation. The parish centre and rest of the outstations are struggling to complete their Church buildings. In some outstations, there is need for new Church buildings.
- Because of the creation of the Jinijini Rectorate, St. John Jamdede is struggling to do meaningful developmental Church Projects.

**Prospects:**

- A good ground to establish nursery school
- Need to establish new Basic Christian Communities
- Need to establish income yielding projects.

#### **d. St. Augustine Rectorate Jinijini (Sunyani Diocese)**

Towards the end of 2019, the Bishop of Sunyani, Most Rev Matthew Kwasi Gyamfi created Jinijini Rectorate from St. John Quasi Parish Jamdede and handed it over to the Claretians. The Rectorate has four outstations. The Church is under construction together with the rectorate mission house which Claretian Congregation supported financially. Fr. Henry Leka-Ire CMF is the administrator of the Rectorate.

**Apostolate:** Parochial Ministry

#### **Achievements:**

- Completion of the Mission house with Claretian aid.
- Construction of borehole clean water at Abansere outstation with Claretian aid.
- Inauguration of the Rectorate on 29<sup>th</sup> May 2022

#### **Challenges:**

- Shortage of portable water.
- Security (no fence around the mission house).
- Need for another missionary

#### **e. St. Anthony Parish Agroyesum (Obuasi Diocese)**

Claretians were entrusted with this parish in 2012 and Frs. Venatius Umennebuaku CMF and Terence Agu CMF were the first Claretians to work here. Fr. Venatius became the parish priest while Fr. Terence was the hospital chaplain (St Martin's Hospital Agroyesum) as well as assisting in the parish apostolate.

Currently, Frs. Joseph Egbu CMF and Livinus Onwuzuruike CMF are working there. Fr Egbu is the Parish priest while Fr. Onwuzurike is the hospital chaplain and also helping in the parish apostolate.

**Apostolate:** Parochial and Hospital Ministries

### **Achievements:**

St Anthony Parish Agroyesum has seen major developments under Claretian leadership. The parishioners are now worshipping in the main Church building,

- Built Marian Grotto to enhance our Marian Devotion.
- Established water project to help in the parish finances,
- Started new Church building at St Joseph Church Station Manso-Mosikrom.

### **Challenges:**

- Bad road network due to illegal mining and need for a good vehicle.
- Financial constraints in construction of Church buildings
- Destruction of water bodies and land by illegal mining activities
- Worshipping in an uncompleted building in most of the outstations.

### **Prospects:**

- The people of Agroyesum are very receptive and hospitable, and therefore good ground for evangelization.
- Creation of outstations to be closer to the people and to shorten the distance people cover in attending masses.
- There is need to build more Marian Grottos in major outstations to increase Marian devotions.

#### **f. St. Joseph Parish, Bormaa (Goaso Diocese).**

In October 2019, the provincial Superior responded positively to the request of the Bishop of Goaso Diocese Most Rev. Peter Atuehene, to establish our presence in his diocese. The parish was created in the year 2000. St Joseph's Parish Bormaa has 8 outstations scattered around the villages of Bormaa. The outstations are small in numerical strength and mostly farm settlements. Some of the outstations have no church building while others are still building their churches. Currently, Rev. Fr. Olisaemeka Oranebo CMF and Fr Charles Okonkwo CMF are working there as pastor and co-pastor respectively.

**Apostolate:** Parochial ministry and education apostolate (the schools are owned by the parish and the state catholic school)

### **Achievements:**

- Completion of the ceiling of the parish station church
- Construction of Marian Grotto
- Renovation and expansion of the mission house to accommodate chapel and porch
- Construction of parish office

### **Challenges:**

- Need for parish vehicle to reach the peripheries.
- Paucity of fund.

### **Prospects:**

- Good ground for primary evangelization.
- The need to establish Claretian owned project like school or farm.
- Need to establish income yielding projects.

### **2.2.3 North Nigeria Mission.**

#### **Our Presence in the North**

The delimitation of the area called Northern Nigeria captures the geo-political zone that comprises of the Nineteen (19) Northern States and Abuja (the Federal Capital Territory).

#### **Mission Positions**

The Northern Mission has a personnel strength of 20 Claretian Missionaries. Apart from the Novitiate in Utonkon that is a Formation Centre which also houses the farm manager, and one other missionary working in the Diocesan Minor Seminary in Makurdi, all our mission positions are parish and school apostolates. We also have the two Claretian Bishops in this mission jurisdiction.

#### **The Mission Positions are:**

1. Otukpo Diocese: St. Martin de Porres Onyagede, Heart of Mary Novitiate and the Provincial Farm.



2. Makurdi Diocese: St. Stephen's Asase, St. Edward's Abinsi, St. Thomas More, Gbonko and Divine Mercy Minor Seminary.
3. Shendam Diocese: St. John Vianney Kwande.
4. Pankshin Diocese: St. Vincent De Paul Fier
5. Jalingo Diocese: St. Martin of Tours, Garba Chede.
6. Maiduguri Diocese: St. Michael's Kala'a, Adamawa State.
7. Bauchi Diocese: St. Giles, Gambar, Bauchi and St. Joseph Parish Bajoga, Gombe State.  
(The missionaries here are still integrating)

**Apostolate:** Formation, Parochial Ministry, Education, Farm Project and Social Work.

### **Challenges:**

1. The challenges are multifaceted, pastorally it is a place of primary evangelization, populated mainly by young people, vibrant and active. Funds are needed for the initiation of some projects that will be of great benefit to them and facilitate evangelization.
2. High rate of insecurity.
3. Need for young missionaries to consolidate the mission.
4. Many of the outstations are difficult to access by vehicles, hence the need for motorbikes.
5. Displacement of people due to insurgency and terrorism.
6. High rate of poverty.
7. Frequent religious violence by Muslims.
8. Cultural practice of polygamy
9. Involvement of young people in occultism.

### **Prospects:**

The insecurity in the region is a real challenge and has been a major setback to the mission. In spite of this, some of our missionaries have survived harrowing experiences of terrorism, kidnapping and herdsmen attack.

Being a mission in the peripheries of life, there is need for more missionary involvement and collaboration, as well as financial investment. Education is the key towards emancipation of the poor people in this region.

### **3. PREFECTURE OF SPIRITUALITY**

#### **Community Life/ Spirituality**

**First:** *To encourage the celebration of Claretian peak moments at our mission positions and further strengthen more participation in common celebrations.*

#### **Line of Action**

1. The structures of the Immaculate Heart of Mary Secretariat will be enhanced, and her activities reviewed in view of responding to the signs of the time. This would include revising the present handbook, developing the IHM Novena into a renewal programme and engaging in missionary outreach programmes to the places where our confreres work.

**Second:** *To improve relationship with families of our members especially of these on foreign missions.*

#### **Line of Action**

1. The Provincial Government will compile the names of our confreres who are on mission and those who have gone before us and locate their families for this all-important apostolate within the first and second year of the Sexennium.

**Third:** *To strengthen the animation of local councils in view of enhanced community animation*

#### **Lines of Action**

1. The Provincial Government will explore the possibility of organizing the local superiors meeting twice annually.
2. The Provincial Government will closely accompany communities through regular visits of animation to communities.
3. The Provincial Government will improve the content of the Quinquennium Programme, imploring the assistance of some experts for improved results, geared towards promoting fraternal community living.

**Fifth:** *To facilitate the establishment of the Immaculate Heart of Mary Shrine and the relocation of the retreat centre.*

### **Line of Action**

1. Considering the available resources, the Provincial Government will continue the ongoing development of the proposed site for the Retreat Center, Immaculate Heart of Mary Shrine, and retirement home at Abakuru.

### **3.1 Retreats and Renewal Programmes.**

In fulfilment of our obligations in the area of spirituality in the Province we have faithfully continued our annual retreat for the finally professed, renewal retreat for the temporally professed, and ordination retreat. We have noticed a very significant improvement both in attendance and participation in our annual retreat for the finally professed. We pray for the grace to continue the good spirit growing among us. We appreciate our confreres who accompany the temporary professed during their annual retreats.

For administrative and proximity purposes for the confreres working in the Northern Nigeria Mission, the Provincial Council proposed that they have their annual retreat together at a convenient location in the Mission. This is a step towards realising a greater bond for our missionaries.

An unfortunate fire outbreak destroyed our Retreat Centre. Even though it was a major setback for the retreat apostolate, we believe that from the ashes will rise a beautiful edifice where men and women will adore God. (cf.MS, 73).

### **3.2 Novitiate/Second Novitiate.**

The Novitiate programme resumed after a hiatus due to the change in the formation programme and directives of General Government. Presently, we have 11 novices.

The programme of second Novitiate in preparation for final vows has also been maintained. Each year, different confreres are available for the accompaniment of the brothers in this all-important stage.

### **3.3 Claretian Feasts.**

Our yearly celebration of the feast of the Immaculate Heart continues to improve with innovation. We appreciate the IHM team for their collaboration. We thank also, our Lay Claretians and other lay faithful who with high commitment collaborate in the organization of the novena and the feast itself. Yearly different themes are chosen to reflect the needs and present situation of our people.

### **3.4 Immaculate Heart Secretariat.**

We have realized the following in the Secretariat since the VII Provincial Chapter:

1. Annual Retreat for the Devotees: The devotees also gather to pray every 13th of May in honour of Our Lady's Apparition at Fatima.
2. Improved on the Immaculate Heart Feast Day celebration, better music, better cultural performances, though with less finance due to the economic recession.
3. During the sexennium, younger confreres were included in the Secretariat team. This has added creativity, vitality, and versatility to the secretariat's programmes.
4. *Praying with Mary*, a little prayer booklet was published, and it contains all the prayers of the secretariat. Though currently, the secretariat is working on a much-improved document with deeper Claretian touch.
5. *Pilgrims with Mary* was published, which happens to be a comprehensive book on Mariology.
6. Our students are not left out as they continue to participate actively in the *Cordi-Marian Spirituality*.

### **3.5 On-Going Formation/Quinquennium.**

A standard programme adapted from the East Asia Delegation has been prepared that can become a model for the on-going formation project for five years. This enriching encounter is held at least once every year for priests in the first five years of the priesthood. We suggest that there should be a similar programme for those in midlife.

### **3.6 ACLA Encounter.**

During this sexennium, the Prefecture of Spirituality participated in encounters organised for the governments of different organisms in Africa. Issues about our lifestyle and

spirituality featured prominently especially, three processes of transformation - Going Forth, Being Witnesses and Messengers and Adorers of God the Father. The spiritual dimension of these processes featured prominently in line with the XXV General Chapter.

### **3.7 Retreat Apostolate/Team.**

The Retreat Apostolate is not a private enterprise. The apostolate has been repositioned for greater effectiveness. We appreciate our brothers who have shown great level of availability and cooperation with the retreat team. It is really working. We urge members of the province who still undertake retreat preaching apostolate as private business to reconsider their stand. The revitalised retreat team have been able to do the following:

1. Spread information about the vision of the team to many Religious bodies, such as Dioceses, Religious Congregations and the lay faithful, through the production of flyers and pamphlets.
2. Moderated retreats, seminars, orientation and formation orientation to many groups, Religious Congregations and Dioceses.
3. Generated funds through the apostolate.

### **3.8 The Forge Experience.**

The Prefect of Spirituality, Fr Perpetus Igwe and Fr. Cyriacus Asiegbu participated in the programme in *Los Negrals*, Madrid Spain. The *Forge*, a renewal project is part of the Congregation's response to the Church's call for the renewal of religious life after the Vatican II Council. The prefecture also participated in online meetings organized by the General Government.

#### **4. THE PREFECTURE OF FORMATION**

##### **Objective**

*The increasing number of vocation and the presence of other non-Claretian students in our formation centers pose a great challenge to a healthy and conducive environment for formation. To create a more conducive environment in all our formation houses for the healthy growth of our students to effectively witness to the joy of the Gospel.*

##### **Specifics**

**First:** *To promote the general wellbeing of both formators and formandi.*

##### **Lines of Action**

1. The government would see to the setting up of a community for students at the Philosophate, which will be situated apart from the Institute from where the students can attend lectures.
2. Adequate accommodation, basic facilities like water and electricity would be provided to reflect the intake of candidates.
3. The Provincial Government would not assign priests with no defined functions to our formation houses as their presence militates against healthy and conducive formation process.
4. Basic needs for formators and formandi would be catered for.
5. The Provincial Government would continue the training of more formators, as well as foster a well-defined programme for the formation of formators and for ongoing formation.
6. Communities would be encouraged to celebrate important events in the lives of members.

**Second:** *To see to the process of selection of candidates as well as formative accompaniment of the formandi.*

## **Lines of Action**

1. There would be a thoroughgoing system of aptitude tests, psychological tests as well as medical tests to be carried out on candidates at the time of initial admission and before final profession. In addition, other ongoing screening exercises should be carried out in the course of the candidate's vocational journey.
2. Personal accompaniment of the candidates would be undertaken at least once a month. Candidates will be encouraged to carry out personal projects in line with community's projects.

**Third:** *To see to the promotion of vocation to brotherhood.*

## **Line of Action**

1. A special formation structure and pattern would be set up for the recruitment of brothers, who may be trained in such specialized areas like school managers, teachers, psychologists, or in acquisition of manual skills like mechanics, carpentry works, etc.

The Claretian Congregation was formally inaugurated in Nigeria in the year 1973. We have thus celebrated almost five decades of missionary presence in Nigeria as joyful messengers and witnesses of the gospel message. Our Province is gradually evolving a stable and permanent programme of formation, despite the challenges she faces. There is close collaboration among the formators in the different stages of the formative process. This report covers the period of the sexennium (2016 – 2022). This part of the report will thus focus on the activities of the prefecture of formation within the sexennium. The activities will reflect the Action Plan that was drafted based on the Declaration of the VII Provincial Chapter, 'Strengthening Missionary Community as Basis for the Joy of the Gospel' and how the prefecture in collaboration with the Provincial and General Government responded to the said Declaration. Other pertinent issues will equally be highlighted.



#### **4.1 Responses to the Declaration of the VII Provincial Chapter and Provincial Action Plan.**

1. It is pertinent to point out that the Provincial Government through the financial assistance from the General Government has been able to provide a more conducive environment for our formandi in our different formation centres. The philosophy students are presently living in their own community house quite apart from the Institute/University from where they attend lectures and come back to the community for other formative programmes. The students packed into the magnificent building on February 20, 2021, after its blessing by the Provincial Superior, Very Rev. Fr. Simeon Nwobi, Cmf. The Province is indebted to the General Government, especially to our Father General, Very Rev. Fr. Mathew Vattamattam, Cmf for financially supporting the project. There are also major structural repairs done at the theologate Attakwu, as well as at the Novitiate Utonkon through the financial support by the General Government. The General Government also approved the installation of renewable energy(solar) in the formation houses. This would not only cut the cost of electricity but also provide environmentally friendly, affordable, and sustainable energy. It is part of our moral imperative to protect the environment in line with the *Laudatio Si* of the Holy Father Pope Francis. The Provincial Government also embarked on the training of more formators during the sexennium.
2. Candidates prior to recruitment and admission for first and final vows undergo medical examination as well as aptitude tests to determine their suitability. The process of selection and examinations is done by the formation council. However, psychological tests have not been carried out due to some logistical problems of access to facilitators.
3. The formators strive to have an accompaniment of the formandi at least once a month. There is a monthly recollection for the formandi, and spiritual direction is done every fortnight.

4. The formandi are encouraged to carry out personal projects in line with the community's project – to develop their talents as well acquire some skills.
5. The prefecture in collaboration with the Youth Ministry also embarked on promotion of vocation to the brotherhood. However, the efforts have not yielded much dividends, perhaps due to the clerical nature of the society, which tend to give more reverence to clergy. Presently we do not have a professed brother. One of the students who had earlier applied to be a brother now tends to opt for the priestly vocation.

## **4.2 Other Pertinent Matters**

### **4.2.1 Emphasis on Formation.**

The Province lays a great emphasis on formation especially on initial formation of the formandi. A glance at the formation programme in the last sexennium indicates a positive dimension in the accompaniment of the formandi as well as a reinforcement of emphasis on the responsibility of the formandi in the formation process. There is emphasis on the need for formandi to personalize their formation by assuming responsibility in the formation process. The Provincial Prefect of Formation is in charge of formation. However, at the community level, the Novice Master, the prefects of student, and the superior are directly in-charge of formation. The team of formators also have regular meetings aimed at enhancing the formative process, rubbing minds on crucial issues in the process. Some of the formators attended and participated at the different formative programmes organized at different levels, provincial and inter-provincial. The Vocation Council equally pays keen attention to certain major qualities required of an aspirant to our life viz. enthusiasm for propagating the Gospel message, docility of Spirit and the spirit of self-sacrifice among other qualities. However, more attention should still be placed on the aspect of internalizing the values of community life.

#### 4.2.2 Integral Character of Formation.

The formation programmes carried out in our formation centres follow the stipulation of the recent publication of the General Plan of Formation (GPF), 2020 on 'Formation of Missionaries'. The formators use this text at conferences with students and also on the days of recollection. The formation programmes emphasize integral formation which pertain to the five dimensions of our life viz. spiritual, intellectual, human, missionary, and Claretian dimensions.

- a) **Spiritual Dimension:** spiritual formation is the pivot of all the other formative activities. Great emphasis is laid on the import of prayer for a successful missionary life. A devoted prayer life is one of the essential criteria and a clear sign of the call to the priestly/religious life. There is daily celebration of the Eucharist, which is preceded by half an hour meditation except on weekends and solemnities. There is a weekly practice of Lectio Divina, a monthly recollection and spiritual direction with the directors, and monthly confessions.
- b) **Intellectual Dimension:** the spiritual formation of our formandi is balanced with academic/intellectual formation. We recognize the fact that the two feet upon which the missionary works are the spiritual and intellectual dimensions as recommended by our father founder. Thus, the intellectual aspect is emphasized in the philosophate and theologate. There is also emphasis on specialization and on-going formation after the initial formation. The objective of intellectual formation is to lead the young missionaries to acquire a solid and coherent understanding of Man, the World, and of God, in such a way that it furthers their human formation and sharpens their mental prowess (Cf. Dir. 163; Can. 251).
- c) **Human Dimension:** a considerable level of maturity is expected in each of our missionaries in formation, especially in interpersonal relationship as they are bound to work with and among the people of God. Through workshops, seminars, conferences, etc., an integral human formation is fostered in our missionaries in formation.

- d) **Missionary Dimension:** the entire programme of formation in the Province has a dominant missionary character and orientation. Our main objective is to train missionaries to be better equipped for the challenges of the Church in the modern times, and to be able to serve the Congregation both locally and internationally. Besides the theoretical knowledge imparted in the classrooms, a considerable time of at least six weeks is apportioned for their missionary experience at the end of every academic session. Moreover, after their philosophical studies, each student is expected to undergo a one-year internship of missionary work under an experienced Claretian priest.
- e) **Claretian Dimension:** the formandi are helped to appreciate the different dimensions of our life and charism. They are made to live the reality of community life with all its benefits as well as challenges. The preparation of the community and personal projects are ways in which they are taught to take part in the formation process. They are helped to take part not only in their formation but also in the running of the formation houses by being entrusted with responsibilities that demand accountability and being encouraged to contribute through monetary returns from family and apostolates undertaken. During the long vacation and at Easter break, the students stay in the formation community. This helps to strengthen the bond of community life and to engage them in meaningful programmes that will help them in future ministries.

### Formandi<sup>23</sup>

|            | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | Total |
|------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-------|
| Entrances  | 17   | 12   | 10   | 14   | Nil  | 10   | 63    |
| Departures | 6    | 7    | 11   | 2    | 4    | 2    | 32    |

<sup>23</sup> This table shows number of students admitted each year and those that departed from the Congregation each year. (Prenovitiate, Novitiate and Postnovitiate).

## Formators<sup>24</sup>

|               | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | Total |
|---------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-------|
| Prenovitiate  |      | 3    | 3    | 4    | 4    | 4    | 21    |
| Novitiate     | Nil  | Nil  | Nil  | 3    | 3    | 2    | 8     |
| Postnovitiate | 6    | 6    | 6    | 6    | 3    | 3    | 30    |
| Total         | 9    | 9    | 9    | 13   | 10   | 9    | 59    |

### Number of Formandi as at 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2021:

Pre-Novices = 26

Novices = 11

Post- Novices = 25

Total = 62

### Number of Formators

**Postulancy** = 1 formator

**Philosophate** = 3 formators (the prefect who also is the superior, the assistant prefect and the bursar. Since this is an Institute there are also other agents who collaborate in formative process namely spiritual directors and other professors.)

**Theologate** = 3 formators (the prefect, the superior and the bursar). There are also other agents namely the spiritual director and other professors who collaborate in the formative process.

**Novitiate** = 2 formators (the Novice Master and the bursar).

### 4.2.3 Spaces, Moments, Dynamics for Formative Enrichment.

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<sup>24</sup> This table shows number of formators each year at prenovitiate, novitiate and postnovitiate formation stages.

There is serene environment in our various houses of formation. The formators foster a family atmosphere where the formandi feel a sense of brotherliness

There are also moments of celebration of life, birthdays, and anniversaries of ordination as well as religious profession. The formation communities also celebrate together the Father Founder's Day, Family Day, our Foundation Day, Memorial of the Claretian Martyrs, and other congregational feast days. Some of the dynamics that foster formation include monthly recollections, conferences by the prefects, workshops on human sexuality and development. There is emphasis on auto-formation and cultivating a sense of personal responsibility.

The novices have moments of interaction with novices of other male and female religious congregations known as novices' encounter. Each of the congregations hosts the encounter in turn. It is a moment of social interaction and exchange of formative ideas through workshops and seminars on human development and sexuality.

Our houses of formation have community libraries well equipped with formative materials, which are accessible to the formandi. However, there is need to provide internet facilities as well as e-libraries.

#### **4.2.4 Formative Initiatives.**

The Philosophate has as part of her curriculum, a course on Entrepreneurship. The objective of the course is to enable students acquire basic skills in different fields of human endeavours. The formandi in our different houses of formation are entrusted with responsibilities in management of community's resources like acting as procurators.

#### **4.2.5 Formation Proposals for Specific Ages.**

The Province has an organized programme for those in five years of ordination (Quinquennium). It is a moment of interaction among the young missionaries during which they share ideas on their missionary life. Experienced Claretian missionaries also share their thoughts on our missionary life. There is, however, no specific proposals for those in mid-life, third stage of life or special situations.

#### **4.2.6 Effects of the Formative Processes and Areas to Improve.**

As regards the formative process, there is need to focus on the recruitment and screening exercise of our aspirants to ensure quality intake, especially with regard to the vocation boom. There is also the need to ensure continuity in novitiate formation and subsequent formative stages to ensure that the ideals of missionary life learnt at the novitiate are carried into subsequent stages of formation. Greater emphasis also has to be paid on community life and teamwork among the formandi since this often impacts negatively on our life of witnessing after the years of ordination. There should be a gradual and progressive movement in the formative process characterized by growth in personal responsibility and maturity.

#### **4.2.7 Plan of Specialization.**

The Organism has a Commission for On-going Formation and Specialization. Specialization is usually done according to the missionary needs of the Province. However, there are some situations whereby some people embark on specialization without due regard to the Provincial Plan. With the advent of the CUN, there is need for an aggressive specialization programme for the confreres in order to meet the personnel need in critical areas of the university.

#### **4.2.8 Plan to Train More Formators.**

The province recognizes the need to have well trained formators who will eventually replace the current formators and has over the past sexennium sent some of our missionaries for formation course. Some members of the Province have also taken part in formation courses organized by the General Prefect of Formation.

#### **4.2.9 Impact of the GPF.**

This document has been made available to all our houses of formation and to every priest in the Province. The formators use it at conferences with the formandi. It has had a very positive impact in the life of the formandi.

#### **4.2.10 Provincial Participation on Courses Organised by the General Government.**

Members of the Province have always participated in the formation courses offered by the General Government. However, with the outbreak of the COVID 19 pandemic, Frs. Chukwuemeka IHEME, Dominic Ukpong and Stanley Ogaraku participated online in the formation course organised by the General Prefect of Formation.

#### **4.3 Challenges.**

- 1) To respond adequately to the Claretian missionary life there is need for suitable specialization programmes in keeping with the priorities set by the Provincial Plan of Action. It does seem that individuals embark on specialization studies without regard to the needs of the Province. The Province also needs to train more formators.
- 2) There is need for our students in formation to undergo specialization courses outside the fields of philosophy and theology, in secular fields and humanities. Such specialization could be done in the one year of internship of fourth year of theological studies. We need to focus our training in the areas of school management, administration and youth apostolates. We may also need to train our members in medical fields, hospital management especially as we now have a clinic in the Claretian University. Other areas that are non-parochial include training in communication skills, acquiring basic accounting and managerial skills.
- 3) The recent upgrading of the Claretian Institute of Philosophy (CIP) to the status of a university is a welcome development and a positive sign of growth and development. However, with the lay (male) students living in the old retreat house, which is proximal to the new students' community house, the serenity of the environment has been impacted upon by the noisy atmosphere created by the lay students. Their presence may also pose serious challenge of insecurity and possible strained relationship with the seminarians.
- 4) We are now living in a computer age. To this end, our houses of formation need to be updated with modern technological gadgets, provision of internet facilities, e-library.



- 5) There seems to be a gap or lacuna between the ideals of missionary life as imbibed in the novitiate and subsequent formation stages. We propose a review of the plan of formation especially with regard to doing philosophical studies before the novitiate.
- 6) There seems to be cordial relationship among the formandi during the initial stages of formation and strained relationship when working together in the pastoral fields after ordination. Emphasis should be laid on teamwork and collaboration, especially in the discharge of responsibilities and functions during initial formation.
- 7) In view of the present vocation boom amongst the youths, there is need to devise more effective methods of recruitment and screening exercises so as to ensure quality intake of candidates with missionary zeal and commitment. Vocation to the brotherhood still needs to be promoted.
- 8) Our formative programme should be geared towards impacting basic skills to the formandi and harnessing their talents for the good of the Congregation.
- 9) There is need to foster inter-culturalism through exchange of formative personnel and formandi.

## **5. CONCLUSION**

With the celebration of the VIII Provincial Chapter, the work of this Provincial Government is concluded. The work we have been able to accomplish as a team has been a very positive experience.

We wish to thank all the members of the Province for their generous dedication to the mission that was entrusted to them. It is our wish that the work we have carried out has been positive for our Province and the Congregation. We would like to give thanks for the fraternity with which we have always been received during the visits of animation and the collaboration in the various apostolates and projects during the sexennium.

The Provincial Government has been able to carry out its task thanks to the generous and faithful collaboration of the General Government led by our dear Father General, Very Rev.

Fr. Mathew Vattamattam, CMF. We remain eternally grateful for their trust and guidance. We sincerely appreciate the local ordinaries of the dioceses where our missionaries work; their fatherly guidance and fraternal cooperation are invaluable.

We thank the members of the Claretian Family and all our collaborators in the ministry – the lay people, religious and priests who have promised us their prayers for the success of this Chapter, our Province and the Congregation.

Surely, we have committed errors and have not always known how to respond properly to the needs that have arisen in different parts of our Organism. We ask pardon for this, as well as for all the times that our words or attitude have hurt people or lacked charity or sensitivity in certain situations. In this, nothing remains but to entrust ourselves to your kindness.

We cannot forget our confreres who have been called home to the Heavenly Father during this sexennium. They were part of the Claretian project and contributed immensely in the work of evangelization and to the Claretian dream. We believe that they stand as worthy intercessors for us together with our dear Father Founder, St. Anthony Mary Claret.

At the expiration of the mandate of this Provincial Government, we sing in gratitude to God the Magnificat with our dear Mother Mary, “the Almighty has done great things for us, Holy is His Name.” (cf. Lk. 1:49)

Thank you all and God bless!