

*Société des Missionnaires d'Afrique - Society of the Missionaries of Africa*  
*Los Misioneros de África - Os Missionários de Nossa Senhora da África*

**EL CONTACTO - THE LINK - LE LIEN - O CONTATO**



# *MAFR* *Americas*

**No. 80 - NOVEMBER 2021**



**PROVINCIAL COUNCIL HELD WITH THE ZOOM APP  
AND FROM WASHINGTON D.C.**

From Toronto on Zoom	Cyriaque MOUNKORO, Delegate of Mexico and Armand GALAY, Delegate of Canada
From Brazil on Zoom	Raphaël MUTEBA, Delegate of Brazil
From Washington	Barthélémy BAZEMO, Delegate of the United-States, Serge ST-ARNEAULT, Provincial Secretary, Réal DOUCET, Provincial and Antonio KOFFI, Provincial Treasurer

## **THE WORD OF THE PROVINCIAL**

**Dear confreres,**

Once again, we had to adapt to the conditions imposed by the circumstances. Armand Galay could not risk going to Washington because he had to take his oath to become a Canadian citizen on November 1. And to do so, he had to be in Toronto. Raphaël Muteba was unable to obtain his visa for the United States. The answer to his request never came!

Cyriaque Mounkoro, already present in Washington, was invited by Malian friends to go and bless a wedding in Toronto on October 23, all expenses paid. So he left the day before. But when he arrived at the airport on Saturday night to go back to Washington, he was refused to board because his passport would expire before the required minimum of six months. He had to get his new passport from Mexico through DHL. It finally arrived Thursday afternoon after the Council was over! So, three out of seven members had to use the Zoom app in order to take part in the meeting.

We adapted the schedule to each other's availability and began our meeting with a recollection on leadership as a service. Barthélémy Bazemo drew inspiration from Mt: 20:25-28, Acts 20:28, 1 Pt 5: 1-4 to remind us of our role as leaders. It is not getting a title of glory to be in authority, but a call to put oneself humbly at the service of the confreres.

Nourished by the word of God and a deep sharing during the Eucharist, we were able to address in the afternoon of Tuesday the various points of our agenda. We first realized that our Precapitular Assembly had captured the attention and interest of the confreres of the province. Our synodal experience is off to a good start. We noted with sadness the many departures to the last journey during the year, but we thanked God for having welcomed our confreres near Him in the eternal Joy. It was the Canadian and the USA sectors that were shaken by the Province's 10 deaths. We are now down to less than 100 to continue our mission.

In the following pages, you will find a few echoes of our Provincial Council that will give you a good idea of how the province is doing and what the challenges are. May each one continue to keep our communities MISSIONARY, to do his part so that the Good News may spread around ourselves.

For some, prayer and the quality of presence in their community remain the best means at their disposal; the rearguard is essential in a community project! Others, younger and healthier, will continue to be on the front lines with joy and hope, feeling supported by all the confreres.

Good reflection to all.

**Réal Doucet, M.Afr**  
**Provincial of the Americas**

# ECHOS FROM THE AMS PROVINCIAL CONSEIL No 80

## 26<sup>th</sup> - 29<sup>th</sup> November 2021

### 1. DAY ONE – GATHERING AND GETTING STARTED

Started at 9:00 a.m., the recollection was directed by **Barthélémy Bazemo** on the theme: *Call to servant leadership*. The Mass was celebrated at 11:45 a.m., also presided by **Barthélémy Bazemo**.

Fraternal exchange in the afternoon on personal level.

### 2. FEEDBACK FROM CONFRERES ON RECOMMENDATIONS RESULTS OF THE PRE-CAPITULAR ASSEMBLY

#### 2.1 BRAZIL

The point raised by our confreres in Sherbrooke about the need for a new foundation of the Society raises a question. Is this only a concern for our seniors, who are seeing their numbers decrease in the face of a generation of young African brothers?

This question underscores the importance of having a strong institution so that everyone has a sense of security within our Society.

#### 2.2 MEXICO

Fraternity is important in our communities. How do we extend it across the province?

#### 2.3 UNITED STATES

Some American confreres feel being put aside because of the dominant French language.

#### 2.4 CANADA

Many believe that it is important to welcome young African confreres to our province of the Americas.

### 3. SECTOR OVERVIEW

#### 3.1 US SECTOR

##### 3.1.1 Confreres in the US Sector

2021 has been a challenging year for the US Sector. The year started with the death of **Martin Chapper** and got even scarier with the passing of three more confreres: **Richard Archambault**, **Roger Bisson**, and **Roger LaBonté**.

In addition to these challenges, the confreres are still facing the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic, especially the drastic lockdown restrictions and social distancing measures. However, the situation has improved, especially with the vaccination campaign underway right now.

All the confreres in the US Sector received their jab and are faring quite well. They continue to comply with the measures enacted by the Church and civil authorities in Washington, Brooklyn, and St-Petersburg. They also strive to live their M.Afr mission

and charism, praying for the peace and healing of all those impacted by the coronavirus across the world.

### **3.1.2 Brooklyn Diocese Project: Our Lady of Light Parish**

Apart from **Gazena Haile**, who has experienced health challenges, our Lady of Light community is doing well. **Yago Abeledo** continues his course on process work in Portland, Oregon, and helps in the parish during his free time. Overall, the confreres are doing well in the new parish. **Erick Balderas Vega**, our new confrere appointed for the project, will join the community upon receiving his work permit early next year.

### **3.1.3 Development Office: New Director**

**Denis Pringle**, who has been our Development Office director for twenty-one years, has decided to take his retirement at the end of November. The search for a new director is underway. We are grateful to him for his life of commitment to our M.Afr mission in the US and across Africa.

### **3.1.4 The Africa Faith and Justice Network (AFJN)**

As founding members of AFJN, we continue to offer financial support and personnel for the work of J&P, Encounter and Care for Creation as an essential dimension of our ministry in the United States of America. In addition to its advocacy with the US Congress, AFJN collaborates with the Symposium of the Episcopal Conferences of Africa and Madagascar on various issues about the well-being of African people across the continent. Unfortunately, the new director who replaced the former Executive Director, **Aniedi Okure** OP, has resigned for health issues. A search is underway to find his replacement.

### **3.1.5 The future of St Petersburg Community (Lavigerie House)**

With the appointment of two confreres to the community: **Cristobal Padilla** and **Luciano Fuchs**, the future of our house in St Petersburg is bright. The new confreres will explore possible areas of ministry, for instance, among the growing numbers of Latino Christians or African Americans.

## **3.2 SECTOR OF MEXICO**

### **3.2.1 News from confreres**

#### **1) Dieudonné Rizinde**

He's in good health. He teaches twice a week. He just got his master's degree in philosophy and may call himself a "maestro". He received one dose of the Moderna vaccine. He will receive the second one in a month.

#### **2) Ismaël Mendez**

He is doing very well and he is happy with his community of Querétaro. He is in good health. He is treasurer of the area, visits the chapels of the parish and offers spiritual accompaniment at home. His family is doing well except for his father who is in poor health. Ismael received two doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine.

#### **3) Rafael Azevedo**

He is well and in good health. He will go on leave to Brazil from November 26 to February 2022. He received two doses of AstraZeneca vaccine. He flourished in the apostolate of the sick and the elderly.

#### **4) Emmanuel Barongo**

He's doing all right. He spent four months in the parish of Purisima de Arista, diocese of Querétaro (Sierra Gorda de Querétaro) for his cultural immersion and Spanish. It was a rich experience for him.

Father Alonso, the parish priest, had well prepared his arrival by providing him with an all-terrain vehicle for his travels. He was interested in Emmanuel and Africa in general. They prayed, fraternized and shared pastoral work together.

Emmanuel well coordinated the "come and see" programme in Guadalajara with **Jean-Pierre Roth** and **Rafael Azevedo**. He received two doses of AstraZeneca

#### **5) Cyriaque Mounkoro**

He is in good health. He is pleased with his community and continues to be available to people who come for the sacraments and spiritual accompaniment. He gives lectures to different groups thanks to the Zoom software.

He remained chaplain to the Knights of Columbus for central Mexico. He also participates in all the monthly meetings of the priests of the deanery as well as the meetings of the Presbyteral Council of the Diocese. He enjoys a good relationship with the diocesan priests of Querétaro. He received three doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine.

### **3.2.2 Missionary and vocational animation**

#### **a) Assessment of Prior Experience from June 7 to July 15, 2021**

In general, the propedeutic went well. There was good collaboration between the facilitators and the aspirants responded well to the program. This fostered a good atmosphere in the house.

#### **b) *Domund* 2021 (Missionary Expo)**

On October 23 at 12:30, on the Zoom software, a 30-minute video, designed by our candidates, was presented at the Missionary Expo by the team of vocations animation.

#### **c) Holy Mass at OMPE (Oeuvres Missionnaires Pontificales) in Mexico City.**

On 21 October, on the occasion of the Mission Sunday, we were invited to represent the African continent at the National Mass of OMPE. Emmanuel and two candidates responded to this invitation.

#### **d) Vocational Pastoral Team**

Three members form this team: **Mayra Belén Robles Tinajero**, a psychologist, **Luz Arguiano Ramirez**, a media specialist, and **Adriana Calderon Aranda**, a social worker. With the help of this group, many people follow our news on Facebook and Instagram. Young people contact us through this means of communication.

#### **e) The Missionary Magazine**

The third edition was released two weeks ago. We intend to improve the designs and the quality of the printing. Readers are made aware of the need to support the mission of the White Fathers and especially the formation of our candidates. Promotion of the 2022 calendars and agendas has begun.

### **3.2.3 Lavigerie family in Mexico**

The missionaries of Guadalupe and the Combonians shared their experience of collaboration with the laity. The next meeting of our lay group will allow the drafting of the statutes and rules.

### **3.2.4 Parish Project in Mexico**

The process for a parish commitment in Querétaro is already underway. The official request was made by the provincial. We await the response of the bishop. We proposed that the parish be close to our house in Querétaro (in the deanery of Santa Ana). For the moment, the team foreseen for the parish is composed of Cyriaque Mounkoro as parish priest, **Francisco Javier Ambrosio Vargas** and **Frank Kalala Mbala** as vicars as well as Brother **Rafael Santana de Azevedo**. We expect a concrete response from the bishop at the beginning of November, the day of the meeting of the Presbyteral Council.

### **3.2.5 Update on our official Statutes**

We managed to update the statutes and change the name. **Ismaël Mendez** has already validated his signature as legal representative. **Sergio Villaseñor's** name is still missing. We have to wait for him to come on home leave. Then, we will have completed the process. The change of name has yet to be made at the level of the banks, the electricity company and the water company. It goes very slowly, but surely.

### **3.2.6 The gift of a house in Acapulco**

We got the certificate of ownership. According to our notary, to facilitate the process, it is preferable that the property be initially put in the name of **Ismaël Méndez Almaguer**. It will then be easier to pass on the value of the property to the Society.

### **3.2.7 Priestly ordination of Aranda Adrian Martinez**

With the bishop's consent, his ordination to the priesthood will take place on January 8, 2022 at the cathedral and the Mass of Thanksgiving will be held in his parish on January 9. On November 4, **Cyriaque Mounkoro**, **Emmanuel Barongo**, and **Ismaël Mendez** will go to Ecatepec, Mexico, for a first meeting with the family, the parish priest and two other priests of the diocese to prepare the week of missionary and vocational promotion.

### **3.2.8 Erick Balderas Vega**

He is appointed to New York. He is pleased with his new appointment. The process to obtain his visa has already begun.

### **3.2.9 Jean Pierre Roth**

He is definitely back in Switzerland since September 29, 2021.

### **3.2.10 Frank Kalala Mbala**

According to new information received from Bamako on 25 October, he continues his training at the IFIC which will end on 15 June 2022. So, since **Ismaël Mendez** ends June 30, 2022, we will have to consider appointing a confrere by interim as the sector's bursar in order to give Frank time to settle down.

### **3.2.11 Recommendation to the Provincial Council**

To get to know each other better and better understand the different realities of the sectors in the province, it would be a good idea to organize common activities such as an annual retreat or Internet training courses.

### **3.2.12 Language immersion for the 6 Guadalajara Candidates**

- a) The communities of Washington and Toronto are ready to welcome candidates to support their learning of English.
- b) In collaboration with **Dieudonné Rizinde**, the provincial will verify the most appropriate location for French immersion.

## **CANADIAN SECTOR**

### **3.3.1 Movement of confreres in the Sector**

From Toronto, **Armand Galay** and **Marc Angers** joined the Montreal community in July 2021, while **Michel Meunier** joined Toronto in late August 2021. For health reasons, Michel had to return to Montreal, leaving the Toronto community with only two confreres: **Andrew Lane** and **Michel Merizzi**. **Cristobal Padilla** is expected to stay there while learning English at the beginning of 2022.

**Jacques Poirier** left for Burkina Faso on 15 September 2021 to reconnect with Africa.

From Rouyn-Noranda, **Michel Lavoie** will return to Montreal at the end of October 2021.

### **3.3.2 Deaths**

Since the beginning of 2021, there have been seven deaths in the area; four in Sherbrooke: **Réal Tardif**, **Raymond Perron**, **Pierre Aucoin** and **Jacques Palasse**, two in Quebec City: **Yves Gaudreault** and **Marcel Boivin** and one in Chicoutimi: **Guy Larouche**.

### **3.3.3 Situation in each community**

#### **MONTREAL**

A new coordination team composed of **Cristobal Padilla**, **Serge St-Arneault** and **Marc Angers** (since September 15, 2021) is in a period of adjustment to ensure proper coordination of community services.

#### **- A community celebrating holidays:**

- a) The jubilees of 60 years of missionary oath by **Marc Angers**, **Michel Gingras**, **Denis Paul Hamelin** and **Robert Lavertu**, and 50 years by **Marc Beaudry** and **Jacques Poirier**, on September 8, 2021.
- b) Our maintenance manager, **Taki Niforos's** 25 years of service on September 2, 2021.
- c) Confreres' birthdays are celebrated on the day of their feast.

#### **- Other points:**

- a) The weight of age is felt. This reality must be part of a global and longer-term vision regarding the management of confreres with reduced mobility.



b) **Martin Grenier** took the opportunity to meet with members of the community and explain what is happening at the General Council.

c) **Kevin Rand** is fine at the *Émilie-Gamelin* Nursing Home. **Cristobal Padilla** and **Réal Doucet** visit him regularly.

d) **Serge St-Arneault** and **Marc Angers** have some ministry on weekends in Longueuil, replacing **Michel Meunier** and **Jacques Charon**. This is a personal commitment.

f) **Cristobal Padilla** is giving a hand for masses in the Church of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

### **SHERBROOKE**

a) **Réal Doucet** and **Armand Galay** attended the official opening of the *Les Terrasses Bowen* residence on September 23, 2021. The confreres are happy in their new home.

b) There are 25 confreres at *Les Terrasses Bowen* right now. Seven of them are in the infirmary: **Richard Dandenault**, **Richard Dessureault**, **Raymond Lacroix**, **Denis Laliberté**, **Paul LeBlanc**, **Paul-Émile Leduc** and **Raymond Tremblay**.

### **QUEBEC**

a) The community is made up of eleven confreres. Three of them are in the care unit: **Yvon Lavoie**, **Cyprien Bouchard** and **Jean-Marc Lindsay**. The average age is 87 years and 6 months.

b) The participation of confreres in the activities proposed by the residence has improved.

c) Confreres deplore the impossibility of widely opening the windows of their room. They do not benefit from air conditioning.

### **TORONTO**

a) Only **Michel Merizzi** and **Andrew Lane** have remained since **Marc Angers** departure.

b) **John Boos** chose not to be vaccinated and to remain in the same location at Pickering.

c) **Michel Meunier** returned to Montreal on October 19, 2021 because of his health.

d) Regarding the maintenance of the house, the Financial Council proposed to hire a company for snow removal in winter.

### **CHICOUTIMI**

a) The provincial visited our confreres **Louis-Philippe Girard**, **Bernard Tremblay** and **Yvan Bouchard** in July.

b) **Louis-Philippe Girard** is well accompanied and is followed by his niece, **Hélène Savard**.

### **PRINCE ALBERT**

a) The Provincial and the Sector Delegate visited **Albert Thévenot**, Bishop Emeritus since June 11, 2021, and he appreciated their visit.



b) Unfortunately, they were unable to visit **Paul Sorin** and **Pierre Dumaine** in St-Boniface because of the health restrictions still in effect in their respective residences.

## **7) STE-THÉRÈSE**

**Gilles Prévost** also received a visit from the provincial and the delegate. He was pleased with their visit and invited all the confreres to visit him.

### **3.3.4 Establishment of a Selection Committee for Small Projects (SCSP)**

A committee is being formed whose mission is to show solidarity with our confreres in Africa by supporting small projects locally.

#### **a) SCSP Job Descriptions:**

- Review and select projects submitted by colleagues working in Africa.
- Submit selected projects for approval by the Provincial Delegate.
- Allocate funds according to the possibility of the fund provided for this purpose.
- Follow up on supported projects by requesting narrative and financial reports.
- Meet three times a year, including once shortly before each sector council.

#### **b) The composition of the SCSP:**

1. The Sector Bursar 2. The Financial Director 3. A confrere appointed by the Provincial Delegate with the agreement of the Provincial.

#### **c) Project Selection Criteria:**

- Each project must be submitted by a Missionary of Africa.
  - This project must be recommended by their community and provincial delegate.
  - A quote from two service providers is required.
  - The total cost should not exceed \$15,000.00 Can.
  - Larger projects will be published in the "*Lettre aux Amis*".
  - The final report will include a report of work and a financial report.
  - All projects should be forwarded to the SCSP via email: [ams.can.econ@mafr.org](mailto:ams.can.econ@mafr.org)
- N.B. All requests for funding for means of transport are excluded.

## **3.4 BRAZIL SECTOR**

### **3.4.1 Confreres**

a) **Luciano Fuchs** has been back in Salvador da Bahia since October 15 after a long stay with his sick father. He recently passed away.

b) **Raphaël Muteba** must continue his medical consultations with his surgeon due to a persistent malaise. He plans to be in Mexico in July/August 2022. His residence permit in Brazil is valid until 2025.

### **5.4.2 Questions Regarding Finances**

a) The Province agrees to pay transportation costs of up to 100 kilograms for books owned by a confrere when a new appointment is made to another country.

b) As a gesture of solidarity towards **Luciano Fuchs** for the funeral expenses of his father, the sector of Brazil will contribute with a sum of \$500.00 US.

### **3.4.3 Heritage**

Response of the Provincial Council:

a) What about the 2 tons of books in the library?

After analysis, given the high cost of transporting so many books in Mozambique, the provincial council proposes to distribute locally those written in Portuguese. For books in English or French to be sent to the house of formation in Guadalajara, discernment is required. It will be necessary to take advantage of travels of the confreres to Mexico to send them.

b) Sale of the house

A congregation is eager to acquire the house. We are waiting for them to make their final decision.

### **3.4.4 Future of Brazilian confreres**

Response of the Provincial Council:

In January, three members of the Provincial Council, **Réal Doucet**, **Barthélémy Bazemo** and **Antonio Koffi**, will meet with our Brazilian confreres to study with them the options for their future, at the time of their retirement.

## **4. FINANCIAL MATTERS: PROVINCIAL AND SECTOR BUDGET 2022 AND OTHER ITEMS FROM THE FINANCIAL COUNCIL**

**4.1** Renovations to the roof of the **Washington house** and installation of a new fire alarm system are required

**4.2** When all the conditions are met, we will be able to sell the **Acapulco house** that was given to us as a gift by a Canadian citizen who has lived there for several years.

### **4.3 Houses in ONCHIOTA, 534 Kushaqua Mud Pond, Municipality of Franklin**

The agreement with Mr H. Peter Donnelly, the tenant, will expire in three years. Will he be interested in renewing his lease if we keep the property? The State of New York is giving us the opportunity to renew the agreement we signed before. Serious maintenance is required before considering signing a new agreement for a renewal of the title for the next 25 years. The best option would be to sell our lease when the agreement ends in three years.

According to our financial advisors, this should be easy since it is a tourist destination.

The provincial council asks the United States sector to verify the opinion of the confreres on this subject and to make a final decision at the next provincial council.

### **4.4 Accommodation in Montreal**

Our home in Montreal is the only one we still own in Quebec. How can we allow confreres with reduced mobility to stay there as long as possible? In Quebec City, as in Sherbrooke, we are just tenants. We will be less and less “at home” with the passage of time. These accommodations are not a long-term option.

The idea of setting up rooms in Montreal is not to become a second Lennoxville even by having, if the need arises, the visit or service of a nurse. The main concern is to clarify our long-term vision and make the most of our house on St-Hubert Street.

In the event of bathroom repairs, insurance rates will not increase. A budget of \$50,000 would seem reasonable.

But more consultation is needed with confreres. There will be a meeting between the provincial, the sector bursar, the house council and Paul Boisvert.

## 5. OUR CANDIDATES

### 5.1 Call to the priesthood of Aranda Adrian Martinez

5.1.1 The Provincial Council read the letter written by Aranda Adrian Martinez on October 23, 2021, requesting to receive the ministerial priesthood.

The council also read the recommendation of the Provincial Council of the East African Province signed by **Aloysius G. Ssekamate**, provincial, and **Antony Alckias**, provincial secretary. Finally, the council read the report written by Parfait **Pingwende Balma**, **Protogene Rugwizandekwe** and **Berthrand Dakye** on the deacon **Aranda Adrian Martinez**.

5.1.2 Result of the secret ballot vote conducted in Toronto and Brazil by WhatsApp and in Washington by ballot.

Our confrere **Aranda Adrian Martinez** was accepted unanimously (7 votes out of 7) for his priestly ordination.

### 5.1.3 Official Documents

a) A formal minutes will be prepared by the Provincial Secretary.

b) A letter "dimissorial" for the bishop (in English and Spanish) will also be drafted.

### 5.2 Ulises Morales Sanchez

Ulises completed his internship in Sharing, Kampala. He is pleased with his experience. He is now in the novitiate in Arusha, Tanzania.

### 5.3 Those of Guadalajara

According to **Dieudonné Rizinde** and **Emmanuel Barongo**, all our candidates in Guadalajara are aware of participating in a commitment process. They have an idea of what they're looking for. They fulfill the training requirements. They are committed, active and eager to share their experiences with other youth. They ask many questions about the Society. There are currently six of them, five from Mexico and one from Honduras.

## 6. OUR ASPIRANTS

### 6.1 MEXICO CITY

**Juan Edgar Domingez Pozos** is the most promising aspirant at the moment.

## 6.2 UNITED STATES

**Bernard Dafany** is finishing his university course in theology. He finally opted to join the Capuchins.

## 7. CENTRE AFRIKA

### 7.1 Update

- a) The main hall and other rooms are still not available to groups and associations.
- b) We are awaiting the arrival of **David Gnadouwa** and **Frédéric Kyombo**, as well as the impact that our partnership with the Diocese of Montreal will have on the mission and future vision of the centre.
- c) The members of the centre's team began to seek the advice of a few people to help our reflection.

### 7.2 What future for the Afrika Centre?

- a) It is clear from our discussions that the rooms will no longer be available to groups and associations. It is obvious that the centre had become a cheap place to book rooms without any special commitment to the centre itself. Certainly, the yearly event of the 'Journées Africaines' have mobilized many groups and individuals for fourteen years, but this festival will not be repeated anymore. It's time to move on.
- b) We plan to invest the year 2022 to clarify the type of partnership we will develop with the diocese of Montreal. Surprises await us and we hope they will be beneficial.

## 8. PROVINCIAL OF THE AMERICAS DIRECTORY 2022

The update of the next edition is in progress. The Provincial Council suggested adding a page to indicate the locations and dates of the retreats already planned for next year.

## 9. LAUDATO SI

- 9.1 A digital platform *Laudato si* invites religious communities to make a public commitment to respond to Pope Francis' call to participate in a seven-year journey towards sustainability and integral ecology by developing this platform for action.

### **PROPOSALS**

- a) Develop a program at the community level.
  - 1. Determine what each community is committed to doing? What concrete actions? Example: energy consumption.
  - 2. Communicate to other M.Afr communities one's commitment to inspire them in one way or another.
  - 3. Write an article about it and publish it in "*Lettre aux Amis*".
- b) Sign the commitment platform.
  - 1. Send signed documents to provincial for compilation to be sent to Rome.

## 10. JPIC-RD (cf. Letter from Andreas)

- 10.1 An Internet-based JPIC training workshop will take place from 29 November to 3 December 2021. The council will approach the following confreres to follow this formation: **Emmanuel Barongo, Barthélémy Bazemo, Gilles Barrette** and **Francisco Javier Ambrosio Vargas**.
- 10.2 A seven-day meeting will be held in November 2022 in Rome to develop the strategic plan for JPIC-DR coordination. The next Provincial Council in April 2022 will select a confrere to represent the AMS Province as well as a substitute.

## 11. APPOINTMENTS AND TRAVEL ACROSS SECTORS

### 11.1 UNITED STATES

- a) **Erick Balderas Vega** is appointed to our community of Brooklyn in New York for three years from January 2022.
- b) **Cristobal Padilla** will travel to Toronto in mid-January to learn English. The process for US immigration will begin in January 2022. Cristobal will travel to Mexico in early April for his homeleave. He is expected in Florida on July 1<sup>st</sup>.
- c) **Luciano Fuchs** will also go to Florida. The date of his arrival will be clarified at the next provincial council.

### 11.2 MEXICO

- a) **Frank Kalala Mbala** is expected to arrive in Mexico in the autumn of 2022.
- b) **Francisco Javier Ambrosio Vargas** will take the place of **Ismaël Mendez** as interim sector bursar from July 2022.

## 12. PROVINCIAL VIRTUAL MEETING WITH THE GENERAL COUNCIL IN FEBRUARY 2022

The Province of the Americas will request two confreres for Toronto.

## 13. VARIA

### 13.1 “*Lettre aux Amis*”

Changes are to be expected with, among other things, the addition of new pages such as '*La Famille Lavigerie*' and '*Richesses artistiques africaines*' or '*Coins africains de Montréal*'. The Director will bring the Afrika Centre team together to explore the issue further.

## 14. EVALUATION OF PROVINCIAL COUNCIL MEETING

The members of the council appreciated the good atmosphere, openness and freedom of expression despite the limitations imposed by internet communication.

The U.S. sector was pleased to welcome the Council.

The board members particularly appreciated the virtual presence of **Dieudonné Rizinde** and **Emmanuel Barongo** during the exchanges on candidates in training.

**15. DATES OF NEXT PROVINCIAL COUNCIL**

The next Provincial Council will be held in Montreal from March 28 to April 1, 2022. The recollection on the first day will be directed by **Armand Galay**.



Réal Doucet  
Provincial



Serge St-Arneault  
Secretary