



This year's Tangaza Day celebration has been unusual for many reasons. Normally we celebrate on March 25, the Solemnity of the Annunciation, our college's patronal feast. I am told that the choice was made many years ago at the time we also chose the name and motto of the college: *Tangaza fumbo la Imani!* (Proclaim the mystery of faith). The "Annunciation" seemed like an appropriate feast day for us because "Tangaza" means "proclaim" or "announce" in Kiswahili. For decades now "Tangaza fumbo la imani" has served to remind us that this college was founded not just to pursue knowledge for its own sake (as good as that might be) but to prepare skilled and informed leaders enlivened with Gospel values who would put themselves at the service of the church and society, wherever there are needs we can address.

But this year March 25 fell on Good Friday (which of course we couldn't preempt) and the

church's liturgical calendar shifted the Annunciation to the next free day, which meant all the way until April 4! That is why we decided to push the celebration 10 days earlier, to Tuesday of the Fifth Week of Lent. But I took the liberty of requesting a change in the readings, because otherwise would have been hearing about God's people in the desert being bitten by saraph serpents, and Moses lifting up a serpent on a pole for their healing!

Instead I suggested readings in the light of our special Tangaza Day guests, Marist International University College. As you may know, Marist College (just up the road from here) began around the same time as Tangaza, and both of us are constituent colleges of the Catholic University of Eastern Africa. The motto of MIUC ("You are the light of the world") comes from the part of the Sermon on the Mount that we have read, where Jesus tells his followers that we must let our light shine before others



so that they may see goodness in our acts and praise the heavenly Father (Mt 5:16). But what are these “good works” we are called to do, so that our light will shine forth? The first reading from Isaiah makes it clear: “sharing your bread with the hungry, sheltering the oppressed and the homeless, clothing the naked, removing oppression and malicious speech from your midst, satisfying the afflicted, not turning your back on your own”. If you do these things, says Isaiah, then “your light shall break forth like the dawn, your wound shall be quickly healed, you will call and the Lord will answer” (Is 58:7-9).

Interestingly, this is the very passage that Pope Francis quotes in “*Misericordiae Vultus*”, the document announcing the Year of Mercy that we are currently celebrating. Pope Francis reminds us that Jesus himself is the face of the Father’s mercy, so if we want to understand God’s mercy, we have only to look at Jesus. And what we discover is that for Jesus, as for his heavenly Father, mercy has priority. It does not do away with justice, but goes beyond what justice alone can achieve. Justice alone, without mercy, will never heal the wounds of our world. According to our human way of thinking, we tend to assume that wrongdoers must first repent and then we might consider forgiving them. But as Pope Francis has

often pointed out from the Gospels, in the case of Zacchaeus, of the woman caught in adultery and many others, Jesus first reaches out with mercy, and it is because of that merciful initiative that they are





brought to repentance and conversion. So as Christians we must never tire of the works of mercy, even toward those who seem unworthy or ungrateful.

This may seem like the wrong message for an educational institution like Tangaza. After all, the Commission for University Education does not assess us on how charitable or merciful we are, but on whether we are meeting appropriate academic and scholarly targets. Imagine what would happen here, for example, if you ask your lecturers for mercy because you didn't feel like studying for your CAT or your final! Too much mercy during exams would end up reducing our standards and our reputation for academic excellence.

But the point is that at Tangaza we want to become agents of positive social transformation. I will not be disappointed if Tangaza never becomes the biggest or the richest or the most famous tertiary institution in Kenya, though I want us always to strive to be the best at what we do. But I will be very disappointed if Tangaza "gains the whole world but loses its soul", if Tangaza ever forgets its goal of teaching minds, touching hearts and transforming lives, if we ever forget that all we do here (as we strive for academic excellence and holistic growth) is for the sake of service, for the sake of our mis-

sion to help build a world rooted in Gospel values of justice, peace, integrity and concern for the poor and marginalized.

This is my last Tangaza Day as Principal of the college. Hopefully a year from now we will have our charter and will have become a university. Hopefully we will have a new and outstanding Vice-Chancellor. And although we are today postponing the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding between Marist and Tangaza to give more time to work on some details, hopefully by next year the two will be one, because, as has so often been said in our negotiations with the Marists and with MIUC, we have "a similar DNA".

After all, "Proclaim the mystery of faith" and "You are the light of the world" are not such different mottos. After all, the light we are meant to bring to the world, the light we are called to be in the world, is the light of Christ, the mystery of faith. And after all, as Pope Francis says at the beginning of "Misericordiae Vultus": "Jesus Christ is the face of the Father's mercy. These words might well sum up the mystery of the Christian faith". If that sums up the mystery of faith, then that is what we are called to proclaim: "Tangaza fumbo la imani".

Today we thank God for so many blessings he has showered on the Tangaza family over the past 30 years. We thank all those who have worked with such dedication to make this college what it is now, and what it may be in the future. We thank Prof. Henry Thairu, Chair of the Commission for University Education, for his timely keynote speech on university mergers as a sustainability strategy [*see full text on the Tangaza website*], and his encouragement in the process we are undergoing. And we thank the Marist Brothers and Marist International University College for joining us today for this celebration, as we work toward a closer union in the future. May they continue to be a light to the world, may we together proclaim the mystery of faith, by teaching minds, touching hearts and transforming lives.

May God bless Marist International University College! May God bless Tangaza College! May God bless higher education in Kenya! May we always be agents of God's mercy and instruments of positive social transformation, especially for the poor and most disadvantaged.

Steven Payne, OCD
Principal, Tangaza University College

This editorial is an adaptation of the homily Fr. Steve Payne delivered during the celebration of Tangaza Day.

Keeping Standards



Mr. Aloys O. Ojore

The Institute of Social Ministry in Mission (ISMM) set up a Post – Graduate Research Office in 2015. Last October, the Office was re-named Research and Quality Assurance Office with Mr. Aloys Otieno Ojore as Coordinator. Ojore assists students to identify possible supervisors. He also ensures that supervision meetings do occur and that students keep the deadlines set for them. The Office organizes faculty training workshops for both students and staff, as well as all defenses of research proposals and theses. ISMM Research and Quality Assurance Office makes sure that students have their Research Ethics Applications processed and that each one of them secures research permit from the National Council for Science, Technology and Innovation (NACOSTI) before they proceed to collect data. Throughout the process of thesis writing, the office facilitates meetings between students and their supervisors and also acts as the bridge between the students, supervisors and ISMM administration. The office hopes to encourage PhD and DST students to participate in writing publishable papers that are first presented at annual research conferences organized by ISMM. The future looks bright!

Aloys O. Ojore

CLM



The Leaders Guild (TLG) stems from the Centre for Leadership and Management-Tangaza University College. It is part of DePaul University, SNL Chicago Alumni Association and serves as a core fraternity for Leaders and Managers with the Vision: Leaders Positively Impacting Society.

TLG has two membership categories: Alumni and Associates. It offers lifelong learning and growth opportunities for leaders and managers, and personal development with a focus on its Alumni and Catholic Religious Sisters. TLG seeks to become a well-known leadership development programme within Kenya and beyond.

On 8 December 2015, TLG held an Introduction to Fundraising Workshop: *Sustaining Your Dreams*.





The Leaders Guild

Fundraising Workshops

Top, Sr. Patricia Bombard. Bottom, Fr. Patrick Murphy. Right, participants in the second of the Leaders Guild workshops on fundraising.



The workshop was facilitated by Abena Apea, the Associate Vice President of Advancement at DePaul University. Abena leads a team that raises more than \$12 million annually and has more than 25 years of experience in the field of fundraising and nonprofit management.

The second phase of the Fundraising Workshop: *Fundraising as Friend Raising* was held on 22nd January 2016 and was co-facilitated by Father J. Patrick Murphy, Values Director DePaul International, and Sr. Patricia Bombard, Director Vincent on Leadership - Hay Project. Both sessions were quite enlightening and copies of the book on *Fund Raising Strategies: Stories from the Field Inspired by St. Vincent DePaul* by Murphy and Bombard sold out.

The first workshop was attended by 72 participants and the second managed to bring in over 80 participants. TLG was honored to have the Tangaza fraternity in attendance.

These included Fr. Steven Payne, Principal, Dr. Beatrice Churu, Deputy Principal Academics, and Sr. Agnes Njeri, CLM Director, amongst other leaders and students.

Apart from gaining knowledge and skills on fundraising, the participants got an opportunity to enroll in *The Leaders Guild proposal writing competition*. 20 participants have expressed interest and 6 stand a chance to win funding for their projects with sponsorship from Conrad N. Hilton Foundation and other donors worth 12,000 US dollars to be distributed among 6 winning proposals.

The Leaders Guild will hold a proposal writing lab workshop on 14th April 2016 at Tangaza University College to ensure participants are adequately equipped with the relevant fundraising skills to sustain their dreams.

TLG is sponsored by the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation under DePaul University-Chicago in collaboration with Tangaza University College.

For more information:

Email: info.tlg@tangaza.org

Facebook: The Leaders Guild

Twitter: @the leaders Guild

Our Course Was Different

On 17 March, 2016 we finished our nine-week course on “Small Christian Communities as a New Model of Church in Africa Today”. There are many reasons how and why our course was different. It was mainly taught online in a participatory, interactive way using the Small Christian Communities Global Collaborative Website (<http://www.smallchristiancommunities.org>) so the students were encouraged to use their smartphones, tablets and laptops in class especially for voting in our online SCCs Poll and using the Bible. We tried to develop a “SCC identity” as a class. We used the name Mwanajumuiya (“member of a SCC” in Swahili) rather than “student” in class. The 50 Wanjumuiya came from 22 religious congregations and missionary societies and included one diocesan priest and 15 deacons. We came from 15 countries.

The course involved a new way of teaching about SCCs and a new way of learning about SCCs. We experienced the SCC Model of Church by being a member of a SCC during the course. The class was divided into four SCCs and chose Patron/Patroness Saints with their specific feast days: St. Augustine (born and died in present day Algeria) – 28 August; St. Kizito (born and died in Uganda) – 3 June; St. Padre Pio (born and died in Italy) – 23 September; and St. Theresa of the Child Jesus (born and died in France) – 1 October. The course was practical and pastoral and largely based on the students’ personal experience. Following the steps of an average SCC, we had a weekly *Touch-down* period with reports on the deacons’ homilies as well as the students’ visits to SCCs in the Nairobi area. During the course we had practical experience of five different methods of Bible Sharing/Bible

Reflection/Bible—Life Connections in our four SCCs. We mainly focused on the Gospel of the following Sunday. We had visiting lecturers in five of our nine classes:

1. *Laity and Mission*: Mwanajumuiya Alphonce Omolo, a member of the Eastern Africa SCCs Training Team, and Mr. Felix Nzioka Ngao, of the Catholic Lay Missionaries of Kenya (CLM).
2. *2016 Kenya Lenten Campaign and Justice and Peace*: Mrs. Beatrice Odera and Sister Mary Francis Wanjare, LSSJ, representatives of the Kenya Episcopal Conference - Catholic Justice and Peace Commission Office.
3. *LUMKO Way of Being Church*:



Sister Ephigenia Gachiri, IBVM.

4. *Youth Small Christian Communities* (YSCCs): Peter Kyalo, Senior Software Engineer and Senior ICT Officer of the University of Nairobi; Alloys Nyakundi, Amos Orina and Clementina Maloba of the YSCCs of Christ the Teacher Parish, Kenyatta University.

5. *Evaluation and the Way Forward*: Father Febian Pikiti, AMECEA Pastoral Coordinator. The SCCs Course Paper covered:

1. Part I-- SCC Practicum Write-up on one's personal, practical pastoral experience of one of the 15 SCC Activities.

2. Part II -- Reflection Paper. The best papers will be posted on our SCCs Website.



Some of the students participating in the course on Small Christian Communities run by Fr Healey. Fr Healey is wearing a green shirt in the picture above.

Rev. Joseph G. Healey, MM



Musician Eric Wanaina

CTIE

**SAVE
THE
DATE**

On Sunday, September 4th 2016, Tangaza University College will host the second *Benefit Concert* for the teacher trainees of CTIE who hail from the “informal settlements” of the country. Once again, Eric Wainaina will be the headline performer, providing his talents at no cost. This afternoon concert promises to be fun for all, and it will benefit the future of Kenya.

We are inviting all those with talent to audition to be on the programme that afternoon. For more information about the auditions or any item related to the concert, please contact Bro. Dennis Lee, FSC, at ctiedevelopment@tangaza.org.

So, MARK YOUR CALENDARS: Sunday, September 4th 2016

Strong Woman, Soft of Heart

I was privileged to collaborate with Sr. Bernadette in the last months of her active life at the Institute of Youth Studies. I joined the team that she was heading in July 2012, and worked with her until her return to India for treatment. In August 2014 I made a trip to spend a few days with her and to say good-bye to her. I am glad I was able to do this, not only for her, but for my own willingness to accept the will of God – that just when our Institute was flourishing due to her hard work she be taken away by the sickness. I am grateful, for the lessons I learnt during those short three days with her in South India: she taught me by example the meaning of hope and resilience – subjects that were dear to her. Even amidst the excruciating pain she was calm, caring, and hopeful.

I would remember Sr. Bernadette as a strong woman who was vocal about the rights of women and children. It was not just words, but a conviction that she lived. Yes, she was a feminist. It was on account of this that she was privileged to represent the Institute of Daughters of Mary Help of Christians (FMA) at the UN. While being a feminist, she was not naïve about her gender roles. She knew she had to be a woman, and bring to whatever she was engaged in a strong sense of femininity – those qualities that are uniquely feminine, such as, gentleness, care, readiness for dialogue, concern for details, sensitivity, and vitality. She was never manipulative in the decision-making processes. She was assertive, never aggressive. She was firm, but always gentle. She was soft, but hardly crying for atten-

tion. She was truly a liberated woman! Sr. Bernadette had plenty of dreams. It was like every day she woke up with a dream to engage in something new. She was daring and at times foolhardy – when the values that she stood for were at stake. She was a visionary leader, who always wanted to take the team along. She wanted everyone to be involved.

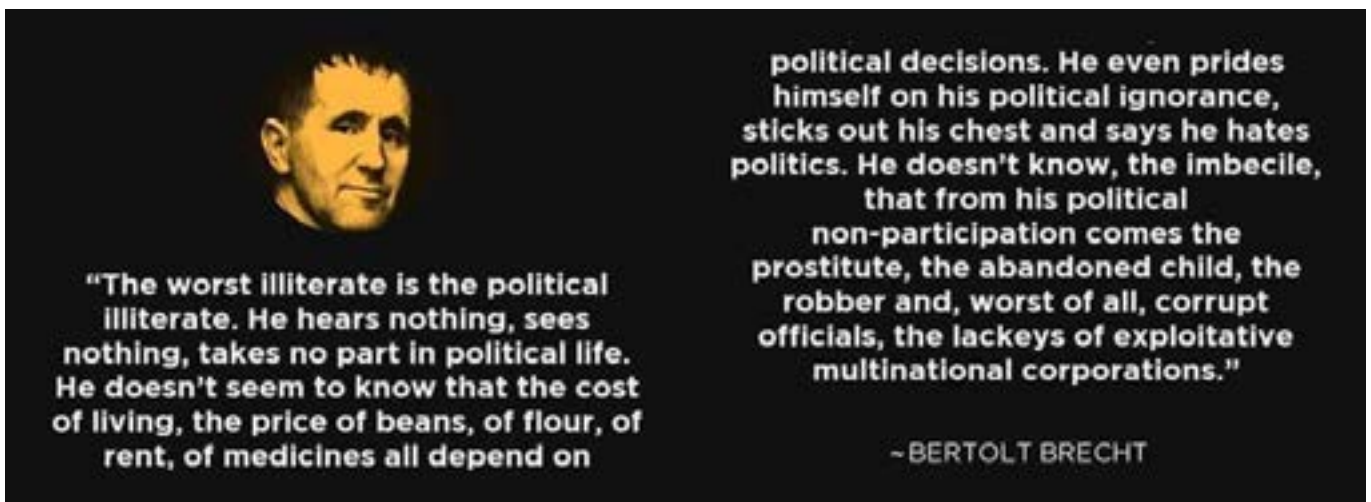
She put order, and established a culture of excellence, at the Institute. In her pursuit of effectiveness, she never overlooked the feelings of individuals. This sensitive balance made her not only efficient but efficacious in whatever she endeavoured to achieve. She cared for individuals: whether it was a government official visiting us, or a needy student or even a troublesome one, or a colleague. A bright student from a needy background had joined the youth studies programme, but he actually



Sr. Bernadette with an IYS collaborator and Fr. Selvam.

wanted to study medicine. She made it possible for him to pursue his dream. Yes, humanity was her hallmark. I wish I could be like her. May she rest in eternal peace!

Sahaya G. Selvam, sdb



TANGAZA DAY

On 15 March 2016, the Tangaza University College community gathered together to celebrate their day. Fr. Steven Payne presided over a lovely Mass. He expressed gratitude to be the main celebrant because it was his last Tangaza Day as Principal. The representatives of Marist International University College had also come to share in the celebrations of the day. After the Mass, students, lecturers and guests intermingled outside the main hall for a few minutes. Later, they flocked back into the hall where the speeches began. After some introductory remarks by the Principal, Prof. Henry Thairu (Chair of the Kenya Commission for University Education) gave the keynote address on the benefits and challenges of mergers between colleges and universities. This was followed by the presentation of awards to exceptional students and staff, to encourage them and others to perform their responsibilities well. Special integrity awards were given to the male and female students who best exemplified the “spirit of Tangaza”, its



mission and vision. Many applauded the achievements of these students and staff who were a good example to the rest. The awards reminded us of the standards and values that Tangaza strives to maintain. As the event progressed, SEMA magazine, an annual Tangaza student publication, was launched. It captured Tangaza’s theme for 2016: “Think Globally, Act Locally”. The articles explore the way in which local communities can foster their development by appreciating and adopting beneficial global techniques. Indeed, it was an interesting day!

Brenda Lare

TANSA

Thank You Very Much

The time to retire from the stage has come! Our time in office as TANSA executives is soon coming to an end. We wish to convey our gratitude to the Tangaza fraternity for your relentless support during our tenure in office. We are grateful to the Principal, Deputy Principals, Directors, and all members of both teaching and non-teaching staff. We have received immense support, kindness, generosity and guidance from all of you. We wholeheartedly appreciate the commitment, hard work and availability of the members of the non-teaching staff who have always worked with us in the preparation of various activities and events.

In a special way, we are grateful to the general students’ body. We thank you for electing us and giving us the opportunity to serve you as your representatives. Be assured that we have done our best to serve you. We appreciate your cooperation in all the activities and events of this academic year which is coming to an end. It will be difficult to forget events such as the cultural day, community service, academic debates, parties and sports. In all these events we manifested unity in purpose, dedication, and love for our College. Let the same spirit continue in the coming years.



We have learnt a great deal during our year in office. We have learnt the joy of selfless service. We have as well learnt how fulfilling it is to sacrifice ones time and efforts for the benefit of others. Once again, before we leave, thank you very much. We promise that we will always be available to offer our services to the Tangaza fraternity. Long live TANSA, Long live TANGAZA!

On behalf of the outgoing TANSA
Aquinas Mutua