

REPORT ON THE VISIT TO THE RETIRED PROESTS AT LIKUNI PARISH BY THE MEMBERS OF THE CATHOLIC MEN ASSOCIATION OF ST. FRANCIS SMALL CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY: 7 DECEMBER 2025

1.0 Background

Following its planned activities for 2025, the Catholic Men Association (CMA) of St. Francis Small Christian Community (SCC) agreed to visit three retired priests at Likuni Parish in Lilongwe. In November 2025, the CMA sent its two members (Mr. Mablekisi and Mr. Zinyemba to Likuni Parish to check with the priests their needs and book a date for the visit. The priest provided a list of their needs and proposed Sunday, 7th December 2025 as a date for the visit. A team of eight (8) CMA members visited the priests on Sunday, 7th December 2025, and presented various foodstuffs and other items they had bought. The members met with Rev Fr. Kapanga and Rev. Fr. Muwanga. Rev. Fr. Zikomankhani was not present. During the visit, the members had some discussions with the Fathers and were taken on a guided tour of the premises.

2.0 Objective of the Visit

The objectives of the visit were to:

- 2.1 Provide the retired priest with some daily basic needs (foodstuffs).
- 2.2 Cheer them up by interacting with them and exploring their priesthood journey todate.
- 2.3 Find out some needs that may require further support in the future.

3.0 Members Who Participated in the Visit

A total of eight (8) members participated in the visit. The members included:

- Dr. Kizito Tenthani, Chairperson.
- Mr. Sam Kadangwe, Treasurer.
- Mr. Robert Chizimba, Secretary.
- Mr. Bentry Chaura, Member and Chairperson of St. Francis SCC.
- Mr. Ken Nyirenda, Member
- Mr. Moses Malinda, Member
- Mr. Ives Gilbert Dzinyemba
- Mr. Quirino Dawa

4.0 Foodstuffs and Items Bought and Presented to Priests

The following foodstuffs were bought and presented to the priests: 25 Kgs of rice, 9 liters of cooking oil, 6 kgs of pork, 3 chickens, 3 bottles of honey, 2 trays of eggs, 1 bucket of Irish potatoes, 1 carton of spaghetti, 1 box of long-life milk, tomatoes, onion and macaroni. The members also bought and presented some gumboots.

5.0 Issues Discussed with the Retired Priests

Some of the key issues discussed with the Fathers were:

- The background, history and journey to their priesthood.
- The history of Likuni Parish (early Catholic Missionaries-White Fathers that came to Malawi, their exploration in the country and their establishment at Likuni Parish).
- Fathers' daily basic and long-term needs to sustain their lives.
- The challenges the Fathers are facing, such as a lack of decent accommodation, need for a specific chapel within the building where they are accommodated.
- The unfinished/ongoing renovations that are taking place. The Fathers told the CMA members that the renovation works have taken longer to be completed than planned due to a lack of support. The renovation works the Fathers highlighted include their bedrooms, kitchen, storeroom, living room and the chapel.
- The Fathers advised the members to lead and live a prayerful life, be dedicated to their families, continue with Charity work, and that they always be exemplary in their Christian lives.



St. Francis members with Fr. Kapinga and Fr. Muwanga



Fr. Muwanga (in striped skipper) stressing the point to the members

6.0 Conclusion and Way forward

The visit was spiritually enriching to the members. They also noted the ongoing renovation works that require material and financial support. They also took note of the challenges the Fathers face, for example, bedding, food, etc. The members agreed to meet at the SCC level and discuss these issues for possible further support in the future. They also agreed to share these findings at the Parish level through the SCC Chairperson for possible support from St. Kizito Parish and other SCCs. At the end of the visit, the CMA members were blessed.

7.0 Vote of Thanks

St. Francis SCC-CMA members would like to thank Father Martin, the Parish Priest-St. Kizito Parish-Chigoneka, for allowing the team to visit the retired priests. His acceptance and prayers enable the team to have a very successful and enriching visit.