

Carmelites in Zimbabwe



A SOUVENIR
OF THE
GOLDEN JUBILEE
OF
THE IRISH CARMELITES
IN
ZIMBABWE

1946-1996

(COMPILED BY FR MICHAEL HENDER, O.CARM.)

INTRODUCTION

This Golden Jubilee booklet commemorates the work of Irish Carmelites during the past fifty years in Zimbabwe. The combined years of their missionary labour in Zimbabwe stretches well beyond one thousand years. To describe the work of over 1,000 years in a booklet of less than 30 pages presents many difficulties. The description has to be very sketchy, with many interesting details omitted. Each missionary contributed much and each was in many ways unique. The decision to provide personnel for missionary work in Africa was made by Provincial Carmel O'Shea. Fr. Conleth Fitzgerald became Provincial in 1946,



so it was his task to implement it. Both of them were pleasantly surprised by the generous response of the brethren to their request for missionaries. It was over-subscribed. As Fr. Anselm Corbett recalls, when the time came for the Carmelites to assume responsibility for their first Mission, Triashill, their Jesuit predecessors were very gracious in facilitating them.

Carmelites in Zimbabwe in the late 1950's: G. Meagher, S. Egan, M. McMahon, C. O'Shea, P. Martin, Monsignor D. Lamont, M. Hill, A. Corbett, J. O'Dwyer, C. Kennedy, S. Dunne (Above). In 1981 (right).

The early missionaries, despite many problems, succeeded in creating a team spirit among themselves. That spirit persisted and is still strong today. No doubt the new generation of Zimbabwe-born Carmelites will have that same good brotherly characteristic which results from knowing that they are doing God's work where 'the harvest is great' and that their strength comes from his Holy Spirit.



Last year members of the Carmelite Family of Africa attended a Course for Formators in Mutare with the encouragement of the Prior General, John Malley, and his Council. Participants represented Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, Rwanda, Tanzania, Zaire as well as

Zimbabwe. It became clear that the Carmelite Marian-Elijan tradition of prayer and transformation can find favourable roots in the rich soil of Zimbabwe and the rest of Africa.

Zimbabwe is world-famous for its impressive Victoria Falls. Carmelites pray that these falls may be a symbol of God's generous blessings being poured into the hearts of his beloved people in Zimbabwe - for another 50 years at least.

**FROM FR JOSEPH CHALMERS, O.CARM.,
PRIOR GENERAL**

The Irish Province of Carmelites has been outstanding for its missionary spirit over many years. Following the example of the early Irish monks, many Irish Carmelites have left their beloved homeland and travelled far and wide in order to preach the Gospel. Their generosity has been blessed abundantly by God as the Order has been able to put down firm roots in many parts of the world due to the dedication of Carmelites from Ireland.

This year we celebrate fifty years of Carmelite presence in Zimbabwe. We see the fruits of the missionary work in the parishes, schools and hospitals of the Mutare diocese and above all in the committed faith of so many people who have benefited from the example of the Carmelites. We rejoice that the congregation of the Handmaids of Our Lady of Mount Carmel is flourishing and also that we ourselves are receiving Zimbabwean vocations to the Order.

May God continue to bless the Irish Province which took the risk of sending three men to Zimbabwe in 1946 and which has continued to support this mission in very practical ways over the past fifty years. May God reward those Carmelites from Ireland and from other parts of the world who have borne witness in Zimbabwe to the values of God's kingdom. I pray that many more young Zimbabweans will enter the Order of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Mount Carmel and so continue the work of the Irish Carmelites with the same apostolic zeal.

(Curia Generalizia, Rome)

**FROM FR ROBERT KELLY, O.CARM.,
PRIOR PROVINCIAL.**

The time is fast approaching for the Carmelites to celebrate the Golden Jubilee of its missionary activity in Zimbabwe. The joint celebration with the Diocese of Mutare, celebrating its Centenary, is indeed a wonderful occasion. It is time to reflect on God's provident care for all who have shared the Good News with the people, especially those who ministered and stayed with the people during the War of Independence. The support, care and concern of the people for the missionaries is well remembered.

It is fitting that as we Carmelites celebrate 50 years in Zimbabwe we also begin to celebrate

the Centenary of the death of St. Thérèse of Lisieux (Sept. 1897 - Sept. 1997). The missions and missionaries had a special place in the prayer and suffering of the little Carmelite in the convent of Lisieux.

On this occasion we express our appreciation and thanks for those whose vision and courage initiated the mission to Zimbabwe in 1946, those who continued the work and especially those who have given generously of their time and talents in the formation of diocesan clergy and of Zimbabwean Carmelites. Any appreciation or thanks would be incomplete without a special mention of all the lay people who through the years have supported the missions through their prayers and generosity. May the Lord of the harvest reward them for their generosity of heart and of spirit.

May the years ahead, in the words of Pope John Paul II, be a great springtime for the Church in Zimbabwe. May Our Lady of Carmel, the saints of Carmel and especially St. Thérèse of Lisieux intercede for abundant blessings on the Church in the Diocese of Mutare.

(Gort Muire, Dublin)

**FROM FR EDWARD WARD, O.CARM.,
COMMISSARY PROVINCIAL**

I am happy to pay tribute to the many wonderful people who have made the past fifty years of Carmelite missionary endeavour in Zimbabwe possible: to the first three Carmelites who arrived in Zimbabwe in 1946: Bishop Donal Lamont, Fr. Luke Flynn and Fr. Anselm Corbett; to the Carmelites of the Australian Province, remembering especially Fr. Morganti, who was the first Carmelite to die in Zimbabwe, followed by 12 Irish Carmelites who were buried here and 15 other missionaries who were buried in Ireland; to the Carmelites of the American Province of St. Elias who for many years sent personnel to work here; to the many Carmelites from Ireland and other Provinces who came for short periods to help the Mission effort and to those who came to preach retreats or hold seminars and workshops. We thank them sincerely and we still need such help; to the many other Congregations and Religious Orders and to the Bishops and Priests of the Diocese of Mutare, the Arch-Diocese of Harare and the Diocese of Killaloe, Ireland; to the Carmelites and their relatives and friends who have supported our Missions and our Formation Programme by their prayers and donations over the years, especially those of the St. Elias Province and the other American Province of the Pure Heart of Mary, the Lower German Province, the Anglo-Welsh Province and the Australian Province; to the Sisters of Charity and the Sisters of Nazareth for assistance to our Formation Programme.

The faith and love of the people of all our parishes are living testimony to the success over the years of the great spirit of mission, dedication and sacrifice among our missionaries.

I would like to thank in a special way all the Irish Provincials since 1946 who have looked after our needs so well month after month and year after year.

We thank God in this year of our Golden Jubilee, which is also the Centenary year of Catholicism in the Mutare Diocese where most of our Carmelites have worked, for our young Carmelites who hold out such a high promise of continuing the presence of Carmel in Zimbabwe.

May our Lord and our Lady of Mount Carmel reward you all.

(Priory, Mutare, Zimbabwe)

**FROM BISHOP ALEXIO MUCHABAIWA,
BISHOP OF MUTARE.**

Important events are about to be remembered and celebrated in our Diocese of Mutare. 1996 is our Centenary year and in this year too the Irish Carmelite Fathers celebrate fifty years of their work in Zimbabwe. Our missionaries came to a culture not their own and often endured great hardships so that God's love for us in Christ would take root among us. We thank God too for the great generosity of so many of our local people - priests, religious and laity who over the years have responded to God's call. Together with the missionaries, they too have suffered greatly in their belief, particularly during our War of Liberation. The Blessed Virgin Mary, with the title of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, as patroness of our diocese, has guided and protected us over the years. The best preparation for these events of our Centenary and the Carmelite Golden Jubilee will be the renewal that takes place among us during 1996.

(Bishop's House, Drumfad, Mutare)

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## VISION & COURAGE

It was a time for new beginnings, a time for new hope, a time to embark on new ventures. World War II had just ended. Europe was recovering from its latest and worst nightmare. Leaders in many countries were trying to re-vitalise old institutions and to create new ones on a global scale. Church leaders, including Carmelite authorities, were anxious to get involved in this recovery and process of international development - to make sure that Christ was not forgotten in attempts to construct a new world order.



It was 1946, the year when the missionary effort in Africa of the Irish Carmelite Province began. The vanguard comprised three men (pictured left) from three different provinces of Ireland: from Connaught, Fr. Luke Flynn of Mayo; from Munster, Fr. Anselm Corbett of Tipperary; from Ulster, Fr.

Raymond Lamont of Antrim. Many fine missionaries from the fourth province of Leinster would follow them soon afterwards. Their task was not always an easy one. Shortly after their arrival Fr. Anselm Corbett, who later became renowned for his mastery of the local language, wrote:

*“Luke Flynn and I spent Christmas 1946 at St. Michael’s Mission, Mhondoro, to where we had been posted to learn the Shona language while Raymond Lamont remained in Harare at the disposal of Bishop Chichester, S.J. All I can remember of that Christmas is that we felt very lonely”*

The place chosen for the Carmelites was the eastern highlands of Zimbabwe, a land of beautiful hills and valleys, of tree-covered slopes and fantastically-shaped balancing rocks, an area ranging in altitude from nine thousand feet between the missions of Triashill and Regina Coeli, to one thousand two hundred feet near the most northern Mission of Avila and the most southern Mission of St. Peter’s, Chisumbanje, and ranging in temperature from light frost in winter in the higher Missions to nearly forty degrees Celsius in summer in the lower ones. Most important of all to the new missionaries were the people of this region. They were friendly, polite and, for the most part, willing to listen to the message of Christ, a message of love and forgiveness, a message of freedom from fear and from evil – “I have come that you may have life and have **it** more abundantly”. It would also be freedom from disease and ignorance, as hospitals and schools were soon put high on the agenda of the new missionaries.

1946 differed in many respects from 1996. Those fifty years have brought many changes. The wild animal population was much greater in 1946 and the human population was much less than it is now. Kudu, buffalo, eland, bush-buck, hyenas and leopard were plentiful especially around new Missions carved out of virgin terrain by the Carmelites such as Regina Coeli, Avila, St. Columba’s, St. Charles Lwanga, St. Patrick’s and St. Peter’s.

During that period a variety in types of housing has also appeared. Fr. Anselm Corbett in 1950 writing about St. Anne’s – now St. Columba’s Mission – in Honde Valley:

*“A letter from Enoch Sanehwe informed me that he had erected the first classroom, a pole and mud structure at St. Anne’s and that he was about to make a hut for the priest. So next time I go down there I shall have at least a decent grass roof over my head.”*

Roads in 1946 were often a problem, especially in areas inhabited by the indigenous population among whom the missionaries lived and worked. Asphalt roads were non-existent in most parts of the country. Tracks rather than roads were common. The favoured means of transport were the army-type four-wheel-drive vehicles and motorbikes. In the rainy season some roads became impassable because of mud and the absence of bridges.

In 1952 Fr. Martin McMahon wrote: *“One of our small trucks got embedded in a river, bonnet facing downstream. We brought our famous tractor to the scene but it too got embedded – in the bank-side muck. Some hours later we got the tractor out with the help of oxen! The tractor eventually hauled out the truck.”*

1996 presents a very different picture. As the local proverb says: ‘Aiva madziva ava

mazambuko' i.e. things have changed for the better, or literally: where there used to be deep water, now there are bridges. Excellent tarred roads traverse the country from border to border. Secondary roads, though not tarred, are generally in better condition than they used to be.

Those were some of the elements which formed the backdrop to the lives of the missionaries during the past fifty years in Zimbabwe. But they hadn't come to admire the scenery and the local fauna and flora, to be concerned with wild life or to bemoan the condition of roads. Their attention was focused on the people of the territory of Manicaland, known from 1957 as the diocese of Mutate. A few Carmelites would also minister in the diocese of Harare, especially at Hatfield, Hunyani, Zengeza and Seke Rural.

Almost every year after 1946 new Irish Priests and Brothers reached Zimbabwe until there was a peak in the sixties of over fifty Carmelites present on the Missions including members of the Order from the U.S.A., Australia and Britain.

- 1946 R. Lamont, A. Corbert, L. Flynn
- 1947 A. Wright, J. Roche, M. Hill, B. Clinch, A. Kinsella.
- 1949 J. O'Sharkey, M. Aherne, I. Coughlan.
- 1950 A. Clarke, M. Brennan, G. Fitzgerald (UK), B. McGivern, J. Clinch, B. Boyle.
- 1951 Cormac Kennedy, P. Martin.
- 1952 G. Meagher, S. Egan, A. Farnsworth (Aus), M. McMahon, F. O'Connell.
- 1953 J. Dunne, P. Toner, S. Noonan, C. O'Shea, J. O'Dwyer.
- 1954 G. O'Brien, F. O'Connell, K. Ardiffe, T. Norton.
- 1955 5. McLoughlin, L. Gallagher, C. Morganti (AUS), B. Dowd (AUS), A. Parsons (AUS)
- 1956 M. Kenny, Cormac Collier.
- 1957 N. Hughes, Cyprian Kennedy (Zim.), J. Lamont (UK).
- 1958 D. Sugrue, Conal Collier, C. Bowe, Ph. O'Dwyer, I. Moore.
- 1959 P. McCartan, P. Feeley (USA), C. Haggerty (USA).
- 1960 G. Calvin, P. Kieman, A. Christie, M. Miller (USA).
- 1961 F. O'Loan, L. MacCabe, M. Des Lauriers (USA).
- 1962 L. Lynch, C. Allen, M. Hipwell, R. Farrell.
- 1963 X. Murphy, F. Lally, E. Ward, P.W Staunton, S. Josten (USA).
- 1964 J. Neville, S. Hession, M. O'Regan, M. Farragher.
- 1965 F. Tobin, J. Doyle, P. Marimanzi (Zim.).
- 1966 A. Breen, T. Power, P. Bodkin, S. Fallon.
- 1967 M. Vargo (USA).
- 1968 M. McCormick.
- 1969 T McDonald, T. Champion.
- 1970 J. Cregan, D. O'Callaghan, F. Tandi (Zim), R. Maunde (Zim), J. McGrath, M. Hender,  
D. O'Connor.
- 1972 A. Costello, I Fives.
- 1980 J. Nijenhuis (Neth.).

- 1982 P Graham.
- 1986 A. McLoughlin
- 1992 J. Kinahan.

### COMMITMENTS

Entrusted to the Carmelites between 1948 and 1950 were the Missions of Triashill, St. Barbara's, St. Killian's, St. Benedict's, Mount Melleray, and the parish of Mutate. The aim of the new missionaries was to spread the Faith to all corners of the eastern highlands. To effect this, new Missions and community centres were established. These were:

- 1951 St. Anne's Mission, Wengezi – discontinued in 1955.
- 1952 St. Simon Stock Mission, Rusape.
- 1953 Avila Mission, Katerere.
- 1954 The Priory, Mutare.
- 1955 Regina Coeli Mission, Nyamaropa.
- 1956 St. Thérèse Mission, Chiduku.
- 1958 The Priory, Hatfield, Harare.  
St. Joseph's Mission, Sakubva, Mutare.
- 1959 St. Andrew 's Mission, Maranke.  
St. Columba's Mission, Honde Valley.
- 1961 St. Peter's Mission, Sabi Valley.  
St. Charles Lwanga Mission, Chimanimani – including Minor Seminary.
- 1962 St. Patrick's Mission, Nyanyadzi.
- 1964 Carmel College, Mutate – discontinued in 1973.
- 1969 St. Michael's Mission, Tanda.

In 1988, Diocesan Clergy assumed responsibility for eight of the above Missions. Some of these are now being administered by the Kiltegan Fathers and others by the Spiritan Fathers of Nigeria.

### GROUNDWORK

Spreading the Gospel of Christ meant establishing a Mission and this involved the construction of buildings such as a church, school and hospital, as well as accommodation for their personnel. Some of our missionaries such as Ignatius Moore, Bernard Clinch and Senan Egan were noted for this. The diocese of Mutate is dotted with fine buildings which bear testimony to their dedication and skill. In more recent times this work is done by contract with local builders.

Church, hospital and school – each demanded much time and toil: organising instructions in the faith and for the Sacraments at various venues; transporting the sick from hut to hospital day or night; building, maintaining and governing schools over a wide area on behalf of the Government during the first half of this Golden Jubilee period. While Mission schools strove for academic success, they did not neglect the role of sport. The most competitive schools over the years for athletics, football and netball honours have been St. Killian's under the direction of Fr. Joe Neville and Sr. Joseph's, Mutare, in both

Primary and Secondary.

### GENEROSITY & SACRIFICE

It goes without saying that work on the Missions would not have been so successful without the financial as well as spiritual assistance of many in Ireland. Benefactors were numerous and generous even though many of them were by no means rich. The annual 'Sale of Work' became a household word among all relations and friends of Carmelites in Ireland. It was held annually in Dublin from the 40's to the 70's. It was a way of raising funds that strengthened the community spirit of its participants. This reminder appeared regularly in the Irish Carmelite magazine: *'Helpers for the Annual Sale of Work in aid of the Carmelite Foreign Missions meet in Carmel Hall, Whitefriars St., Dublin, on the first Tuesday of each month at 8.00 p.m.'* Revenue from the sale of used stamps also went to the Missions. In 1953 in the same magazine: *'We collect used postage stamps for the Missions. Our good friends in Ireland and abroad send their used stamps to us here in Gort Muire. So please don't throw away any more stamps. If our supplies greatly increase, we will be able to supply all the finance needed by one Mission in Africa'*. Raffles, sponsored walks, coffee mornings, etc., are still organised to help local people in need in the Mission areas especially in times of drought.

Gratitude is also often expressed by missionaries for the wonderful support they receive from MISEREOR and MISSIO of Holland and Germany, in particular for the construction of churches and the provision of vehicles.

The Mission Superiors or Commissary-Proprietary since 1946:

Fr. Donal Lamont (consecrated first Bishop of Mutate in 1957)

Fr. James O'Shea

Fr. Mel Hill

Fr. Sean Coughlan

Fr. Tom McLoughlin

Fr. Fergus O'Loan

Fr. Tom Power

Fr. Michael Kenny

Fr. Edward Ward.

### FORMATION

Part of a letter written in January 1960 by the Carmelite Provincial in Ireland, Fr. O'Shea:

*"With our Missions being firmly established, the time would now seem to be ripe for a further and most important advance – the acceptance and training of African vocations for the Carmelite Order. Already the Bishop has his African students in the regional seminary, thus laying the foundation for the future African clergy. We too must lay the foundation for the African Carmelites of the future who will live their Carmelite life and exercise the apostolate of Carmel in the midst of their people.... Looking forward in prayer and hope to the day when African Carmelites will devote their lives to God and to Our Blessed Lady of Mt. Carmel in their own country."*

Soon afterwards, efforts were made to implement this suggestion. Fr. Marimanzi and Fr.

Maunde were the fruits of this initial endeavour. It was over twenty years later that a Zimbabwean-based Carmelite Vocations programme was initiated. This was mainly the undertaking of Fr. Tom Power in 1982. The first Formation House was for a short time located in the Vumba before moving to Kriste Mambo. Students of philosophy and theology reside at Nazareth House in Harare from where they commute for classes to Chishawasha regional seminary.

## SISTERS

Bishop Lamont realised that not by man alone can the work of Christ be done in Manicaland. He saw the need for the new Diocese to have its own Sisterhood and so was born the Handmaids of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, their first Sisters being professed in



1961. It was nurtured by the Sisters of the Precious Blood under the authority of German Sisters Ruth Schneider, Heldegim Becker, Benita Bonefass and Gunthilda Ruhl. Sr. Consolatrix Boese was the Handmaids' long-serving and much esteemed Novice Mistress. They have over ninety Sisters at present. They elected their own first Mother General, Sr. Gertrude Bbobho, in 1977.

*Bishop D.R. Lamont, O.Carm.*

The Bishop invited the Sisters of Charity from Holland, the Marymount Sisters from the U.S.A., and the Irish Sisters of the Presentation and of the Little Company of Mary to cater for education and the health needs of the diocese. This resulted in the creation, by the Dutch Sisters, of Kriste Mambo Secondary School and the complex of Primary and Secondary Schools, Adult Education Centre and a TB. hospital at St. Joseph's, Mutate, as well as their involvement in Teacher Training and Nursing at St. Therese Mission and personnel requirements at St. Charles Lwanga Minor Seminary; the Marymount Sisters' College at Mutate and staff responsibilities at St. Killian's Mission and at St. Charles Lwanga; the Little Company of Mary's hospital work at St. Peter's Mission in Sabi Valley; the Presentation Sisters in education and hospital care at Mt. Melleray, Avila and St. Killian's and at a later date the Franciscan Sisters (FMSA) at Regina Coeli, St. Benedict's, St. Andrew's and St. Dominic's, Mutate.

Dominican Sisters were already involved in education in Mutate before 1946 as also were Precious Blood Sisters and Little Company of our Blessed Lady (LCBL) at several Missions.

He also invited the Marist Brothers of Canada to establish a large Secondary School in the diocese. It was built beside Mt. Melleray Mission and is now renowned for its excellent 'A' Level results and a high standard of achievement in sport.

## JUSTICE & PEACE

Carmelites however, from the beginning, were not happy with the laws of discrimination which were in force against Africans in their own country. Other conditions in Zimbabwe were not dissimilar to the situation that had prevailed in pre-Independence Ireland, such as ownership of land, commerce, education and administration of justice. That is why they could understand the struggle of Africans to gain their independence, eventually by force, when all avenues to meaningful negotiations for them were closed.

Carmelites were pleased to let Bishop Lamont be their spokesperson in trying to solve this major problem. He fulfilled this role courageously and tenaciously. He spoke out frequently against the unfair government of the time and against injustices of every kind towards Africans. It was a constant theme of his pastoral letters and his articles in magazines and



newspapers. In 1959 he wrote 'Purchased People', his most famous treatise, defending the rights of the indigenous people and condemning the system of government being forced upon them. He stated more than once that armed rebellion would eventually erupt if their rights were not recognised and respected. The accuracy of this prediction became evident in the seventies.

*Two Carmelites repair their Land Rover*

In 1975 many pupils of our Mission schools absconded. They crossed the border into neighbouring Mozambique to train as freedom fighters. From 1976 to the end of 1979 our Missions were enmeshed in a country-wide web of the guerrilla war that culminated in a cease-fire and formal Independence for Zimbabwe in April 1980.

During these years, besides trying to continue with normal pastoral activities, Carmelites were busy dealing with the almost daily requests of freedom fighters. Carmelite Sisters also helped with this problem and with other difficulties connected with the liberation war. Their advice and co-operation were greatly appreciated by every Mission authority. The couriers for the fighters were usually young girls and sometimes women. They were years of great tension and danger and some Carmelites escaped death by the proverbial hair's breadth. They thank God that nobody died in the conflict. Two received bullet wounds: Fr. Gerry Calvin and Fr. Tom McLoughlin. Fr. Lawrence Lynch was arrested and imprisoned in 1977. This was followed by his trial and deportation. In 1978 Fr. Martin O'Regan suffered a similar fate after his Regina Coeli Mission had been the site of a military contact.

Carmelites were also active in procuring legal assistance through Scanlen & Holderness, (legal practitioners based in Harare) for people detained unjustly and for those wounded or maltreated or whose property was destroyed or whose relations had been killed by the army in controversial circumstances. This facility was organised for all Missions by the Catholic Justice and Peace Commission of Zimbabwe. In addition, Carmelites worked in co-operation with the International Red Cross, supplying war-affected communities with food and medicines including those who had to live inside special fences erected by Government, called Protected Villages, as was the case for the whole population of Honde Valley.

The Carmelite Provincial, Fr. David Weakliam and his councillors organised the moral and material support of the Irish Province for their colleagues in Zimbabwe during those difficult years. As a result much-needed assistance for victims of this war came from generous donors in Ireland, the U.S.A., Britain, Holland, Germany and Australia. Irish people were especially active and generous in shipping out large amounts of clothing for Zimbabweans displaced by the war.

Cardinal Basil Hume, Archbishop of Westminster, wrote in his Foreword to the report for 1976 of the Catholic Commission for Justice and Peace: *“The Rhodesian Commission for Justice and Peace has a commendable record of concern and action in defence of Christian principles, in line with the teaching of the Church. Unhappily its work has attracted considerable hostility from the Rhodesian authorities. This hostility has now focused on the person of the Rt. Rev. Donal Lamont, Bishop of Umtali and President of the Commission, who is being brought to trial for allegedly failing to report the presence of guerrillas and inciting others to do likewise. I would like to take this opportunity of identifying myself with the recent statement of support for Bishop Lamont by the Rhodesian Catholic Bishops’ Conference”.*

After Bishop Lamont’s trial and deportation, Fr. Anthony Clarke was appointed Apostolic Administrator for the diocese of Mutare.

Zimbabwe became an Independent Republic in 1980.

#### **FAITHFUL & TRUE**

Carmelites in Zimbabwe have been pleased to know many women and men, both black and white, renowned for their leadership in faith and charity. Some were baptised in the pre-1946 periods of Marianhill and Jesuit administrations while others were born and educated in Missions and parishes under the pastoral care of Carmelites, e.g., Bishop Patrick Mutume, Priests and Sisters. They include numerous parents, parish leaders, nurses, teachers, doctors and catechists. Today many past-pupils of their schools hold high positions of influence in the local and national government of Zimbabwe, e.g., Provincial Governor and Attorney-General.

Carmelites buried at Triashill Mission:  
Ambrose Roche (Cork) 05-06-1963

Michael Hipwell (Dublin) 02-11-1968  
Brocard Boyle (Donegal) 08-07-1972  
David O'Connell (Limerick) 15-04-1975  
John O'Sharkey (Dublin) 25-05-1981  
Sean Fallon (Wicklow) 08-11-1981  
Gerard Meagher (Wicklow) 03-11-1982  
Thomas Power (Cork) 03-03-1984  
Mel Hill (Dublin) 26-05-1984  
Cormac Collier (Meath) 27-10-1989  
Peter Egan (Galway) 04-09-1992  
Peter Marimanzi (Zimbabwe) 21-02-1994  
Cyprian Kennedy (Zimbabwe) 13-06-1996



Buried at St. Benedict's Mission:  
Fr. William Morganti (Australia) 21-06-1961

The following lines of Hilaire Belloc could be said to refer to Gort Muire Formation House in the 1950's which supplied over thirty men for the Missions in Zimbabwe, and especially with regard to the characters of the late Frs. Michael Hipwell, Sean Fallon, Tom Power and Cyprian Kennedy:

“Here is a House that armours a man  
With the eyes of a boy and the heart of a ranger  
And a laughing way in the teeth of the world  
And a holy hunger and thirst for danger.”  
(from ‘To the Balliol men still in Africa’)