



I am currently in Morogoro with two students, Vitalis and Mosses. The other three seminarians are on vacation, although we expect Yohana to arrive shortly. I have settled into a routine, now that I am in Morogoro. Every Saturday, Brother Mosses is in school, so Vitalis and I begin our shopping expedition. First, Vitalis “unleashes the dogs” as he says, so that things are protected until we get back. I am safely in the van on the other side of the gate when the dogs are unleashed! I will have to get a photo of them. One is a German Shepherd and the other is part German Shepherd and maybe a bunch of other breeds. But, they are both fairly big and they bark a great deal when anyone who should not be here tries to come in!





Once the dogs are “unleashed” we drive into Morogoro to go to the market. As I have mentioned, the roads are not the easiest to negotiate, but between my driving and Vitalis’ navigating we do fine.



At the market, we pick up—actually we pick up *and pay for*—the fruit and vegetables that we will eat during the week. Last Saturday, for instance, we bought 3 coconuts, 20 oranges, 6 avocados, 2 bunches of bananas, 6 cucumbers, some green peppers and carrots, and a bag of potatoes for about 20,000 Tanzanian Shillings (about \$9 US). We also bought some of those little fish for 10,000 Tanzanian Shillings (about \$4 US), although I tried to argue that they were much too expensive for us! ☺ ☺ Vitalis was not sure if I was joking and he bought them because they are so good! Regular fish at 19,200 Shillings (\$8.50 US) and some beef at 21,000 Shillings (\$9 US) completed our shopping at the market. Parking is an adventure because there are so many people walking and motorcycles are going all over the place and there is not much room. But the parking attendant usually points to a place and then I just pray that I will be able to back out without killing anyone!



The quality of the produce is fantastic. I would say, for example, that the oranges we bought last week were among the best tasting oranges that I had ever had in my life.

After the market, we wanted to drive back into Morogoro to visit a few stores. We stopped at one store to buy 25 kilograms of wheat flour and 10 liters of cooking oil. The cost of these items was 64,000 Shillings (\$28 US). We also needed some cleaning brushes and some house cleaner disinfectant (14,000 Shillings = \$6 US). Then we went to another store to pick up some clothes pegs and chicken (22,000 = \$9.50 US). We would have gone to the Post Office, but yours truly forgot the key!



It turns out that I needed to go to the bank on Monday, so we also stopped at the Post Office...this time with the key! To our great delight, we had two postcards waiting for us from our Superior General, Fr. Paul Voisin, C.R. Fr. Paul was at the



Extended General Council meeting in Chicago, and then he was on vacation in Southern Ontario, where he took a visitor from Poland to Toronto. One of the

interesting things about Fr. Paul’s postcards—and I must be careful here because I know that he faithfully reads these blogs—is that his hand writing is, well, a challenge to read. Thinking of this positively, we could say that we “enjoy” his post cards longer than most because of the length of time that it takes us to decipher read his message. Fr. Andrzej once gave the candidates for novitiate a whole afternoon to figure out read one of Fr. Paul’s postcards earlier this summer. They were able to read all but one word. As a native English speaker, they turned to me to tell them what this word was. I got it...in about ten minutes after consulting a rare dictionary of hieroglyphics. But, in truth, he is very faithful and thoughtful in remembering us. Thank you Fr. Paul! (Oh, I think we have caught him in action at the Vatican Post Office!)



Speaking of buying fruits at the market, you would not believe the incredible fruit that is ripening on our own property. The seminarians have done an incredible job of keeping great care of the grass and flowers, but they have also tended the many fruit trees that we have: banana, mango, and papaya. Even though the mango trees are small, they have all kinds of fruit ripening.









Different Resurrectionists have had mango trees planted for them...this is my little guy! The Bananas are growing like crazy!!!! Here is the tree and a close-up view.





We also have a few papaya trees with fruit.





We had an unexpected rain fall last night. I don't know if you have ever heard hard rain on a metal roof before, but let's say that I was roused from my sleep! The water is always greatly appreciated, even if we have to deal with some mud. On the way to the chapel this morning, I saw this little flower poking its head out of the concrete sidewalk. Yes, hope springs eternal.



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