



For this blog, I want to turn back the clock a bit. After spending my initial time in Morogoro, Fr. Andrzej and I travelled to Butiama and Buhemba in September to get ready for the beginning of the novitiate. In Blogs #22 and #23, I provided some photos and information about the parish that Fr. Daniel serves at in Butiama. But, I still have not had a chance to provide some photos and information about the parish that Fr. Maciej serves at in Buhemba. So, here we go!



St. John Paul II Parish was inaugurated on Christ the King Sunday, November 22, 2015. This new parish covers a territory of about 100 square kilometers and comprises six villages. In addition to the main church, there are smaller churches at the various “outstations” and an elementary school that is adding a new grade each year. Fr. Maciej Braun, C.R. was designated the first pastor of the new parish by the local diocesan Bishop, Michael Msonganzila of Musoma at a celebration that

spanned three days and included the blessing of two marriages, the celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation for 92 candidates, and the consecration of the church, which included the imbedding of relics of the Ugandan martyrs in the altar.



*In this photo, you can see Fr. Daniel, Fr. Andrzej, and Fr. Maciej. To the left of Fr. Maciej is Fr. Bernard Hylla, our Superior General at the time of the ceremony.*



*Fr. Maciej Braun, C.R., the first pastor of St. John Paul II Parish in Buhemba.*



The main parish church is quite large with the traditional metal roof.





It was great to be given the grand tour by Fr. Maciej and Fr. Andrzej. Fr. Maciej was once a novice of Fr. Andrzej, but he looks like he came through the experience okay...and Fr. Andrzej looks like he came through the experience okay as well!







Off to the side is the rectory (on the left) and the building for the novitiate (on the left). This is where Fr. Andrzej is directing our ten Tanzanian novices now. Below is the dining room for the novices.





One of the amazing accomplishments of Fr. Maciej is the elementary school. He now has three buses that pick up children who live at a distance too far to walk to school. The school is pictured below the photo of the buses.







You can easily forget how little the children are until you see the desks...and, of course, the children!





While I was visiting, Fr. Maciej was hosting 12 young men and women from Poland who were volunteering for several weeks over the summer break. Although they did not know any Swahili, they were able to communicate quite well with the children through fun and games!





Because of limited resources, this game entailed each of the children finding a stone or a rock to see which group could make the biggest pile!



...to be continued in Blog #31!

The direct link for the blogs is: <https://resurrectionists.ca/members-in-action>