

An Insight on Training and Resources from Beira, Lebombo Diocese

As part of his work with the Christian Council of Mozambique Fr Juliao Mutemba, priest at St Baranabas Bagamoyo Maputo (left), visited Beira and its new incumbent Fr Germano Mandlate (right)



Beira Parish

The pastoral zone of Beira is made up of 22 congregations, and served by 2 priests. Answering to the question how is the work going? Fr. Germano says that, it is the initial moment of getting to know his pastoral zone and the congregations all around, planning visits and work.

The Challenges

The assignment he has is to visit congregations, though they have news from the catechists. There are zones which are not of Beira jurisdiction, such as Maringue and Marromeu which belong to Cena, but we give our support, says Germano. On the other hand, he said that, we are fortunate because we have transport, and we have support of the partner parish, St John in Friern. Barnet....., and our car has the problem of the gearbox, and at the moment, there is one which was found in Zimbabwe.

Training Challenges

Fr. Germano, when asked to share the challenges he has ahead him, said that

- 1) there is a need to secure the production of liturgical books to our catechists. At the moment, we do not have any hymn book in the local language, the only hymn book which sometimes can be found, is Portuguese, but the elders, most of them cannot understand the language.**
- 2) Fr. Isaias (Fr Germano's predecessor who died in 2010) had worked with the translation team, which produced the liturgy in Cena, and they had made certain copies, but they finished long ago, and we need to print more.**
- 3) Concerning training, Fr. Germano, explained of the need to train and retrain catechists. For those who come from distant areas, we need to create the necessary logistics. We need to promote an exchange between catechists, because the priests are few cover the entire area. We also need to organize the catechists meeting, where they will have opportunity to share their challenges, learn from one another and address their concerns to God in prayers**