

St. Barnabas News (April/May 2011).

From Josephine

St. Barnabas learning to serve

1. Works



St. Barnabas here is building a 7 X 5 dining hall for the use of the children and church members; this is part of the works going on since we temporarily closed the pre-school. Besides the dining hall, we are working on the finishing of the children's toilets, where the building is already made, and plumbing is made, except the doors, tabs and sanitary ware.

### **The church of St. Augustine in Magoanine**

St. Augustine Magoanine, started in 1983, for long period had been struggling to get a plot of land for the building of infrastructures, and few years ago, had been given 40 X 60 metres, and the project is to build the church, the vicarage and the training of skills centre. The place is behind the military base which exploded 2007. This is the area where it was allocated people who were moved from the city in the context of the 2000 floods. The local people have built a church with reed and eucalyptus poles, roofed with old corrugated iron. St. Augustine has about 50 members. The catechist is Mr. Antonio Marcos Manjate, who is serving the church part time. Most of the members know how to conduct service, when the catechist is at work; members take care of the church.

### **St Monica's celebrations**

In this church we have since seen the strong hand of God, who had been on our side in times of trouble, and we now can say, "6 Blessed be the LORD, who has not given us as prey to their teeth! We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the fowlers; the snare is broken, and we have escaped!" (Psalm 124:6-7). St. Monica shouts a big thank you to God for all

those who have seen the suffering of God's people when their temple had collapsed, and now it is rebuilt. Now we invite all people to rejoice, for, the house of the Lord is raised again.

### Blessing of the Chairs

Many thanks to St. Paul Bow Common for generosity, after they have supported the paving of the floor, now they gave 43 chairs as our Easter gifts. Christ is risen, Alleluya. The Bishop came to bless the chairs as part of God's answer to his prayer, as he was looking with pity the way the catechist was seated during the Maundy Thursday, as he was going to fall down from an old small bench, and when he arrived home he found an email which St. Paul Bow Common announced an Easter gift of chairs for St. Monica. The Lord has given, let us rejoice.



After the blessing of the chairs, they were immediately used by parishioners, as the occasion of great joy for the marriage of Silvestre and Joana, our church members.

### Blessing of the vehicle

Other miracle seen by the bishop, is the fact that, on Maundy Thursday he told people at the end of the service at St. Monica not to make noisy; but as he was leaving the place, when he was starting the car, it made a terrible noisy because of a breakdown in some of the parts. According to him, he lamented the noisy and when he went home, an entity phoned him, to offer a brand new car, a Four Wheel Drive in recognition of the work he had been doing for the sake of people, which can in time of need. Bishop Dinis travels all over the Diocese by car, and most of the areas it is a must to have a Four Wheel Drive, again God has given, praise be the name of the Lord.



Thanksgiving for the birth of a child

As part of the feast, we had a grace of blessing a new born baby.



Blessing of Silvestre and Joana on their marriage



More reason to smile: Mr. Silvestre and Mrs. Joana were our very important people, as they had just got married on the previous day, and it was their first day after marriage to come to church as a married couple, to receive a blessing.

Lastly, the bishop is soon coming to St. Barnabas, to participate in our patronal day, an occasion which will be marked with sacraments of Baptism and confirmation, then there will be the admission of the Mothers Union. Our daughter Mkatoko will be confirmed on that 11<sup>th</sup> of June 2011, at a service starting 14:00 hours.

It is good to be here in the house of the Lord.