



Priestly Ordination in the DRC

KISANGANI, Democratic Republic of Congo - On the twenty-sixth day of January of the current year, the Montfort Missionaries of the Company of Mary, General Delegation of Francophone Africa (GDAF), in the Democratic Republic of Congo, welcomed with great joy their new Priest, Reverend Father Emmanuel KWASIA, SMM.

In a Christian atmosphere, the Montfortian Parish of Saint Paul in Kisangani hosted this great event and welcomed thousands of people, who came to participate in the Eucharistic celebration and support the two “*ordinandi*”: Montfortian and a Jesuit. The mass was presided over by His Excellency Monsignor Marcel UTEMI TAPA, Metropolitan Archbishop of Kisangani, during which the latter conferred the sacrament of Holy Orders on the two deacons, namely: Emmanuel Kwasia, of the Company of Mary and Ernest YUMA of the Society of Jesus. In his homily, the Archbishop exhorted the two deacons by telling them: *"The priest is responsible for the celebration of the sacraments, the preaching of the Word of God and the spiritual accompaniment of the faithful"*.

Father Emmanuel, the new priest, has as his motto: "*Adveniat regnum tuum per Mariam*", taken from the Lord's Prayer: "May your kingdom come (Mt 6:10) through Mary". The priestly ordination of Father Emmanuel was a moment of grace for him, on the one hand, and for the Church, Family of God of Kisangani, on the other. She recalled the importance of the priesthood and the vital role of priests in Christian life. Father Emmanuel is a gift from God to the Church. After being conferred with the priestly ministry, a cocktail party brought together the parishioners of Saint Paul and guests from around the new priests. Long live the priestly ministry in the universal Church! / Long live the Montfortian missions in the world! / To Jesus through Mary! / To God alone!

Boniface NGWEY, Montfortian postulant