

## MARIANISTS EASTEN AFRICA-ZAMBIA

## **DISCOVERING MATERO BOYS' SECONDARY SCHOOL-ZAMBIA**

Matero Boys'Secondary School is geographically located in Matero Township, North of Lusaka. The school is along Lumumba road, near Emmasdale township. It is 5km from town center.

The school was founded in 1965 by the Society of Mary (Marianist Brothers) as a Grant-Aided Catholic Mission School. The school was established to serve the poor boys only from Matero township. The Society of Mary is an international Catholic Religious Congregation of priests and brothers founded by Blessed William Joseph Chaminade, (a priest) in 1817, Bordeaux, France.

The brothers were cordially invited to come to Lusaka Archdiocese by Adam Cardinal Kozlowiecki, SJ who later dedicated the school on Chaminade Day, 22<sup>nd</sup> January 1966. The dedication of the school was done in the presence the Marianist Provincial Superior of New York, V. Rev. John G. Dickson, SM. The started with 3 form one classes at Matero Parish in



January 1966 while construction was in progress. By the end of the same year, most construction was completed include the Brothers' residence and teachers houses. The learners moved to the site. Each successive year, another grade was added until grade 12.

In 2006 on 22<sup>nd</sup> July, the school honoured the Jesuits connections. These are Jesuits who had a special connection to school. Some are His eminence Adam Cardinal Kozlowiecki, SJ, Fr. Patrick Walsh, SJ and Fr. Colm O'riordan, SJ.

The first Marianist Brother who came to Zambia on 27<sup>th</sup> July 1965 from America to establish the school was Bro. Carmine Annunziata, SM. He was at the helm of construction and establishment





of the school. He served the school for more than 40 years. You cannot give a vivid description of or talk about Matero **Boys** without mentioning Bro. Carmine, SM. By January 1967, according to Bro. Fred Silberreis, SM, 5 Marianists arrived to lend a hand. There include: Bro. Fitzgibbons, SM, Bro. Brian Lane, SM, Bro. Frank Mullan, SM, Bro. Raymond Gohring, SM, (taught Biology/Envi. Science) and Fr. James Imhof, SM. After a few years, Fr. Anthony Jensen, SM arrived on the scene to teach Religious Education.

He was a school Champlain and sincerely supported the construction of St. Joseph Chapel. He was followed by Bro. Frank Annunziata who taught physics and later on Bro. Thomas Oster came to do maintenance.

On 27<sup>th</sup> April 1968, the school was officially opened by his excellence, the first President of Zambia, Dr. Kenneth D. Kaunda. Since then Dr. Kaunda has been a close friend of Matero Boys Secondary School. Dr. Kaunda was the Guest of honour on 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2006 when the School celebrated 40 years of its existence. In his speech, acknowledged the successes the school has scored and urged the school to join him in the fight of HIV/AIDS. On 16<sup>th</sup> July 2016, Mr. Kaweche Kaunda (son of KK) well represented his father at the Golden Jubilee at Matero Boys'. KK could not come due to health issues and other engagements.

School motto is Deeds not Words (*Res Non Verba*). Words have on place in the society. What transforms the lives of pupils and indeed the community is actions. At Matero Boys' Secondary School, the boys and the teachers learn to be practical. The Mission statement is to develop the whole person (leaders) who can take up their rightful positions in the community and church under the leadership of Mary.

The school has had the following head teachers faithfully serving the people of God at Matero Boys: Bro. Carmine Annunziata, SM (1964 – 1971, 1993 – 1998) the first principal. He was sacked as principal and forced to leave the country 1971 after he refused to admit an over boy (17 year old) into form one according to rules of that time. The boy was sent to school in February by the by somebody important in the Government. His brother took over. Bro. Frank Annunziata, SM (1971 – 1989), Bro. Richard Olsen, SM was Head from 1983 to 1985 as Bro. Frank had resigned due financial difficulties in the country that forced teachers to strike. He was later reinstated in 1985. Finally, he resigned in early 1989; Mr. Chifumu Chipeta (1989 – 1989) from Chipata who conned "Maboys" was appointed to post. He resigned in December. In February, 1990 the school was closed for some due to cholera outbreak. In of the same year, it was closed as a result of food riots that broke in City Centre of Lusaka. Mr. George Solami (1990 – 1993), Mr. Steven Ziwa (1998 – 2000), and Mr. Felix Njobvu (2000 – 2004) died while





in office in chieftainess Shikabeta in Lufunsa district. The other head teachers are Mr. Friday Talimi (2004 – 2013) retired, and Mrs. Petridah Mwanza Manongo (2013 – present day) the first female principal.

Some of the deputy principals who have had served at Matero boys are Mr. Emmnuel Mumba, Mr. Samuel N. Mulawa, Bro. John Mayuka, SC, and Bro. Given Mukanshi, SM (2014 – present day). The first 5 years or so of the school, teachers came from America (Brothers), Ireland, Australia, United

Kingdom, India, Yugoslavia. Mr. Fidelis Chizula was the first Africa to join the school.

The PTA was formed in 1967. One first member was Mr. Abraham Varghese, a teacher who represented teachers in the PTA meetings. The Old Boys Association (Alumni) was formed in 19.......The highest decision making organ is the Board of Directors chaired by the Board Chair.

The school is directed according to the educational philosophy of the Marianists. This entails the Five Characteristic of Marianist Education: a) educate for formation of faith, b) provide an integral, quality education, c) educate in family spirit, d) educate for service, justice and peace, e) educate for adaptation and change. Besides, the school operates with the Ministry of General Education framework and policies. This is done without disregarding Catholic systems and principles of Education. This has resulted in good performance of the school in national examinations.

The school is bolded on the Map of Lusaka and indeed Zambia because of the excellent academic results. The school has maintained the pass rate of 100% at grade 9 and above 98% at grade 12. The Cambridge exams were taken for the first time in 1970 at Matero Boys'. The school has scored great and many successes in education and has produced engineers, priests, pastors, politicians, ministers, directors, managers, teachers, lawyers, doctors, sportsmen, bankers, the list is endless.

Pupils are carefully grouped into 15 houses headed by house moderators (teachers) and assisted by the house captains and his vice-captains. Every morning the house has a meeting. The following are the clubs that exist at school: Football, Karate, Jets, Chess, Youth Alive, Conservation, Volley ball, Lawn tennis, Basketball, Badminton, Vocation, ICT, as well as Radio Interactive.

The school was the first to initiate the game of volley ball in Zambia in 1969. Basketball was also introduced at school in the same year. In 1970, Matero boys' was the national volleyball champions. Matero Boys' came first in basketball in the province and came out second in volleyball in...2004...Many trophies have been won in Lawn tennis and many coaches have been produced.