

## Brother Normand Berger's Dream is Being Realized



February 16, 2014 will mark the twenty-fifth anniversary of the accidental death in 1989 in Congo RDC (then known as Zaire) of missionary Brother Normand Berger at the age of 40. In two years as a radio specialist, airplane mechanic and pilot in the northeastern Dungu region,

Normand earned everyone's admiration by his patience and cooperativeness, dedication and dependability while participating in the modest system of air transportation to meet medical emergencies and to serve the varied needs of evangelization, education and development of the region. We are happy to report that the FIC Vice-Province of Central Africa (Democratic Republic of the Congo / Rwanda), the origins of which go back to the late 1960's, is currently experiencing an almost unprecedented period of consolidation in fairly unstable political conditions.

The Congo boasts 20 professed Brothers (19 Congolese, one Canadian), 6 scholastics and 2 novices. Three (3) Brothers are pursuing advanced studies. For its part, Rwanda has 12 professed Brothers (7 Rwandans, 1 Congolese, 4 Canadians), 8 scholastics, 3 novices. Two Brothers study for advanced degrees outside the country. Brother Pascal Mbolingaba, a Congolese Brother, is Vice-Provincial superior of the Congo / Rwanda mission.

In the Congo, the Brothers currently run two secondary schools in Dungu and Isiro, and they have recently opened a small primary school in Dungu. In Rwanda, the Brothers administer a Teacher Training College in Kirambo, they coordinate the activities of a multi-purpose Formation Centre in Gisenyi on Lake Kivu and there are plans for a Technical Training School in this same area.

With a contingent of some 50 professed or in-training African Brothers, the Vice-Province of Central Africa may be in a position to manage other educational establishments in the not too distant future. Br. Berger had plans to dedicate the rest of his life to furthering the development of this mission territory. With the help of benefactors the ministries of this vice-province are made possible. CLARION readers can share in the endeavor by contributing to our Notre Dame Province Missionary Fund in memory of dedicated young Brother Normand.

*Brothers Marcel Sylvestre & Robert Smyth*

## BCHS' Loss, NDI's Gain

In the summer of 2012, three "Connolly High School" Brothers were assigned to Notre Dame, Alfred, ME. So what are they up to?

At 88 I am fully retired. I occupy myself doing all sorts of odd jobs, fixing, mending, replacing broken items. In the summer I enjoy helping volunteer Bill Boddie mowing lawns (of which we have plenty). My pet project is attempting to rejuvenate abandoned fruit trees. I taxi confreres and am available to help as needed. Otherwise, I pray, read



walk and rest. Life is good.

**Br. André Millette**



I serve as the assistant director of our three building Notre Dame Spiritual Center where each year approximately 5,000 people participate in various retreats, classes, conferences and meetings. I was appointed the assistant superior

of the motherhouse in Alfred. I serve on the Menaisian Family steering committee which fosters the charism of our Founders.

**Br. Walter Zwierchowski**

After 47 years in schools, I "retired" from active ministry in June 2012. I was assigned to the position of local superior of our community of a dozen Brothers in Alfred, ME which includes overseeing the 300 acres of Notre Dame campus. In addition I was appointed as treasurer for the American Province overseeing the



finances of our three US communities.

**Br. Daniel Caron**

### THE CLARION

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