

'Sister' archbishop addresses priests at annual retreat

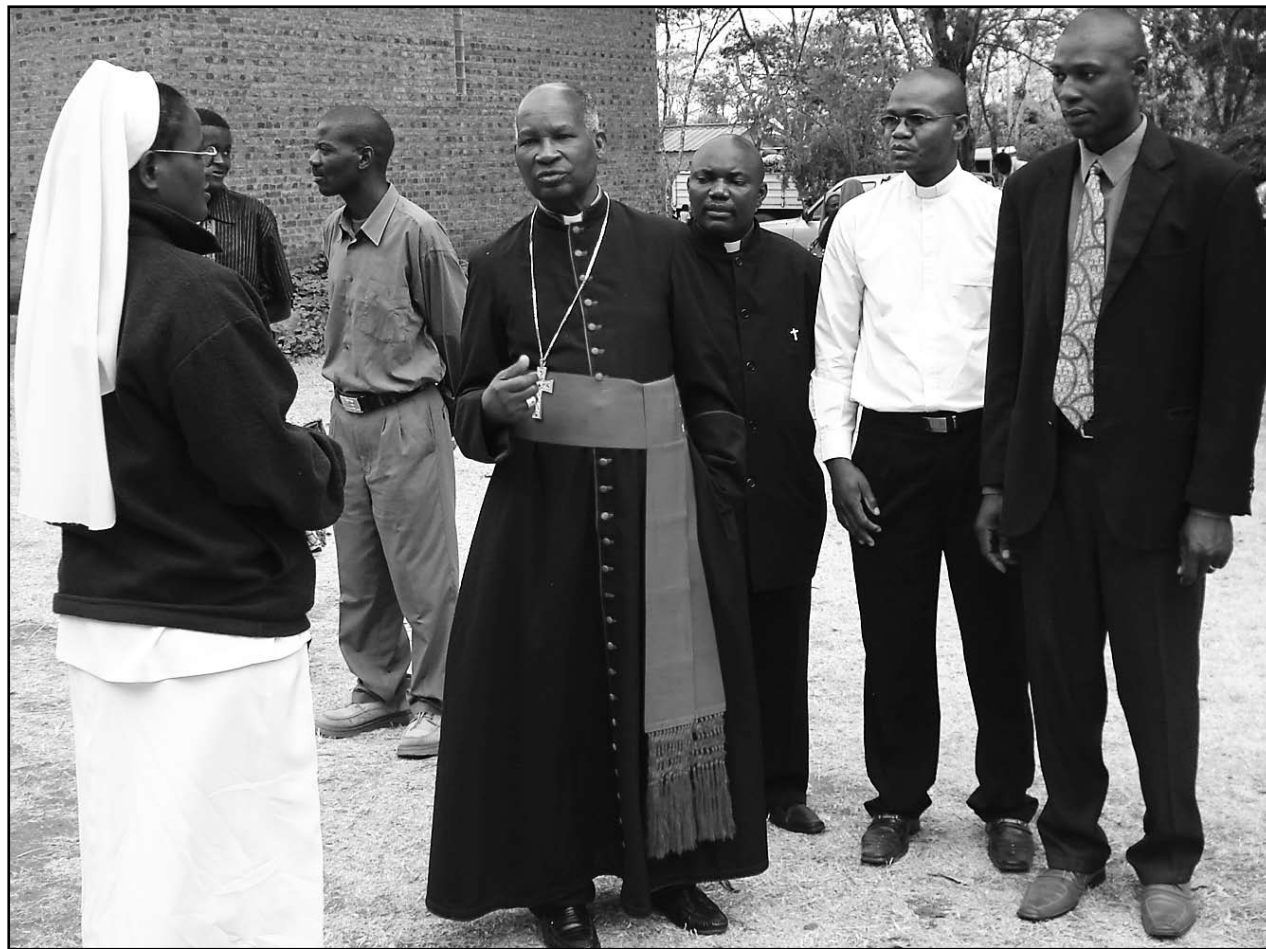
Expresses gratitude for aid from Wyoming

By Kathrine Patton
Editor

The Diocese of Cheyenne and Archdiocese of Lusaka, Zambia have established a reciprocal relationship as sister missions, sharing their knowledge and experiences while assisting one another in accomplishing their objectives.

Archbishop Medardo Joseph Mazombwe, retired archbishop of Lusaka, made his second visit to Wyoming earlier this month. The archbishop was invited by Diocesan Administrator, Father Michael Carr, to be the retreat leader for the annual diocesan priests' retreat held in Sedalia, Colo.

"All of our priests



Archbishop Medardo Joseph Mazombwe, retired archbishop of Lusaka, made his second visit to Wyoming earlier this month. He is shown in an earlier visit of Wyoming delegates to the Diocese of Lusaka, Zambia.

were able to gather in his presence and be strengthened on retreat under his direction,"

Father Carr said.

Last year, Father Carr traveled with a delegation of faithful from Casper

to Zambia to visit the archbishop and the people of Lusaka. The relationship with the Church leaders in Zambia began with former Bishop David Ricken working to bring Father Lucas Simango to serve in Wyoming.

As sister missions, the two dioceses have the opportunity to experience the realization of the universal Church and assist with the needs of one another.

"I feel that this kind of interaction is enriching for the present and the future," Archbishop Mazombwe said. He emphasized the importance of continuing to communicate with one another.

The Holy Father, especially Pope John Paul II, said the Church universal should promote universal solidarity, Archbishop Mazombwe explained.

"We should share the knowledge and experiences from

our missions," he said. "There are so many areas where the Church here could help the Church there with its priorities. You have more advanced systems

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Archbishop Medardo Joseph Mazombwe, following a visit to University of Wyoming engineering students

here to help. Also, we have created ways of evangelization in Lusaka which could be shared here. There is a kind of mutual enrichment in this."

The archbishop had visited the University of Wyoming's engineering department and was struck by what he learned. "I was impressed with idea of engineering without boundaries, and here we are talking about the Catholic Church univer-

sal, without boundaries. It is what Christ wanted—no boundaries," he said.

During his visit, Archbishop Mazombwe shared that the three main priorities for his diocese are education, healthcare and agriculture.

First, for all the bishops in Zambia, the issue of malnutrition is of great concern and agriculture can be meaningful in overcoming this problem, he explained.

Second, adequate healthcare is a great need for his people. In Zambia, there are so many people who die should not die, and the advanced healthcare that is available here should be of help.

The Church in Zambia is working to build a national Catholic hospital with up to date medicine, equipment, x-ray facilities and a pharmacy so people from all areas can seek medical assistance. The archbishop is hopeful the hospital may be opened this year.

And finally, education is of utmost importance. There is a desire to help people have

access to more information, especially with the use of technology. They would like to establish a university by which they will help the state in preparing leaders, the archbishop explained.

The archbishop compared the work of the Church in Zambia with that of Christ.

"Christ was teaching, feeding the hungry and healing, and we continue his work in our diocese," he said.

The Diocese of Cheyenne has been working to assist the archbishop with the needs of the people in Zambia. It has tithed 10 percent of this year's Bishop's Appeal to aid its sister-mission, or \$8,000 to date.

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