



Br Andrew Jedrzejczyk, S.J.
(1884-1967. In Zambia 1920-1967)

24 August 1967

Andrew Jedrzejczyk the son of Peter and Helen (nee Turek) Jedrzejczyk was born in Mosty, central Poland, on 7 November 1884. He entered the novitiate in Stara Wies in 1908. After his novitiate he worked as a gardener first in Stara Wies, then in Krakow and in Lwow until his departure for Northern Rhodesia in 1920. After a short stay at Katondwe, to acquire some knowledge of the local language, he was sent to Chingombe where he spent the next eight years. There, since they still had only oxen, he introduced a simple plough and a maize planter. He also established a vineyard, set up a smithy and built a water-mill.

In 1927 he was transferred to Kasisi where he stayed and worked for almost three years. While there he built a dam on the Ngwerere River and a water-mill. In 1929 he returned to Chingombe for a year and then was missioned to Chikuni to help Brs Gajdos, Boron, Bulak and Beno in building. When Fr Moreau bought a small diesel driven water pump, he laid a long pipe line from the borehole to the residence.

He left Chikuni for Kasisi in 1937 to be in charge of the farm, to support the mission and the school boarding facilities. Fuel was a problem with the war-time shortages. He constructed a power plant from an old Ford engine driven by gas produced from old maize cobs. It worked! After ten years he went again for a short time to Chingombe before starting his seven year stint in Katondwe.

In 1959 he had a short stay again in Kasisi before moving to the new mission of Karenda. There, in addition to organizing and running the garden and helping Br Gajdos in building, he established, what was always his passion, – a good orchard. He left fine orchards wherever he stayed.

He spent his last years at Mpima Minor Seminary doing as he always did: planting and cultivating fruit trees. He died in Kabwe Hospital on 24 August 1967 and is buried in Kabwe.