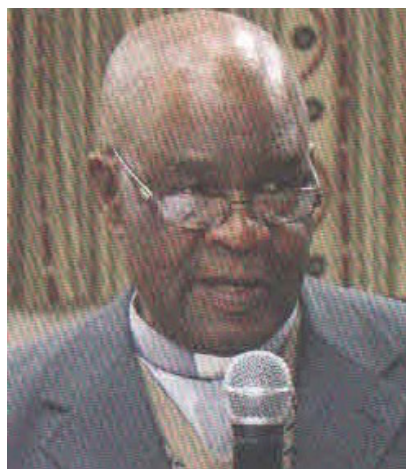


21 December

Br DOMINIC SHONIWA 28 January 1938 – 21 December 2018



Dominic was one of the earliest candidates to the Society, joining in 1964. He was born in Chinyika, an outstation of Chishawasha. He started his schooling at Arcturus Mine where his brother was a teacher. In 1950 the family moved to Masembura where he came into contact with Makumbe Mission. He attended political meetings in those days but left when a speaker started to attack the Church.

After vows at Mazowe where the novitiate had moved from Silveira House, he stayed on there until he went to Glasgow in 1968 for the Brothers' Juniorate, a well-intentioned but ultimately unsuccessful attempt to meet the needs of young Jesuits who were joining as brothers. Dominic enjoyed his time in Scotland and came away as a qualified Motor Mechanic but as far as this writer knows he hardly used this skill as his talents were seen to be elsewhere.

In 1972 he was at Makumbe as religious teacher, boarding master and in charge of sports. In 1978 he was moved to the Seminary 'to help in the administration' but soon moved to St Peter's Kubatana where he and Br Tobias Tirivanhu did much to develop the Technical School. He was also appointed a province Consultor, something he once told this writer, which gave him great confidence and a sense of arrival in the Society.

In 1984 he became Vocations Director and Stephen Silungwe remembers his devotion to this task and his punctual keeping of appointments. Dominic received great nourishment for his friendships and Kizito Mhembere, a diocesan priest, was one of them. He used to assist him in his parish. Stephen Silungwe, in his homily at the Vigil Mass said, 'he never said anything bad or negative about a brother Jesuit. He was very humble and content with his work. He never demanded anything extra and did not show off.

In 1994, Dominic became National Assistant to the CLC and in 2003 he rebuilt St Peter's Kubatana from the 'shambles' it was left in when the Jesuits retired from it some years earlier. In 2010 he came to Peter Faber Centre at Silveira House to work in retreats and four years he finally 'retired' to Richartz House for the old and infirm and found himself 'the driver' which he cheerfully accepted. In 2015 he was diagnosed with prostate cancer. This was kept at bay

for a while and he continued to enjoy watching football and the ZTV news which he faithfully watched every night. By 2018 the cancer had spread and become terminal.