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**Sent:** Sunday, November 02, 2014 4:01 AM

**To:** Bosco Ho (SFXBOYS/NCE68); Bosco Wei; Philip Chan; Philip KY Chan (sfx-van); Joseph Chang; Jerry Chung; Hok Nin

**Cc:** chamfms; F. Bernhard Seigel; HannahMair

**Subject:** back in Kenya after my home visit

*Dear Brothers and Old Boys,*

*I like to give you a brief update as I you have missed some news from me for some time. The reason is that I was on my home visit to Germany. I made it back to Kenya and to the island of Mfangano just one week ago. There are a few reasons for my two months stay in Germany.*

*1. All the German Marist Brothers who are out in the foreign missions were invited back to Germany for a General Assembly of all German Brothers in the world. At one time, especially during WW II, there were a total of more than one hundred German Brothers in the Mission countries, especially in China, Samoa Islands, South America, Africa. Today that number has dwindled to less than ten. The main reason is that few, and in some countries hardly any young people for some decades heed the call to religious life. On the other hand, the fact that numerous young volunteers are coming forward to help our Marist missions for a period of one or more years.*

*2. The German Brothers also celebrated their Centenary of Marist missionary work in Germany. One hundred years of service and life history of a person-- and more so of a community-- is to be celebrated so as to give thanks and praise to God for his goodness.*

*3. This third reason was for the celebrate of the diamond jubilee of some Marist Brothers. In 1954 there were fifteen of us who made their PROFESSION, that is, their commitment as Marist Brothers of the Schools (FMS). Out of the fifteen of us, God has already called nine to their eternal home. These nine persevered in their vocation and died as Marist Brothers. Among these nine is also Brother Rudolf Urban who died two years ago in Hong Kong and is buried in Cheung Sha Wan cemetery with other Marist Brothers. In the attached photo four of us are pictured in the front bench at the Eucharistic jubilee celebration in the Marist Brothers` Church in Germany (Nr.1406).*

*Also in my native village in Bavaria, Germany, my home parish celebrated the occasion in a very lively and happy fashion according to our customs with "Un Papabrass band" for the procession to the Church and refreshments "à la Bavaria"!*

*I am very happy and grateful to God that HE grants me the health to still be of service to the marginalized youths in this remote area or as visitors often refer to it as a "hardship area". I am deeply grateful to all our loyal and generous Old Boys and all our benefactors for your support. You make it possible to continue keeping some of our neediest students in our Marist schools, more especially in ST. Martin Technical school, Ramba, and Bishop Mugendi Secondary School. Truly, we are ONE WORLDWIDE MARIST FAMILY !*

*Ever united in our common mission, in love, prayer and brother hood,*

*Your Brother Gregory in Kenya, East Africa*