

## General Requirements to Start Formation

- You must be a young man not younger than 20 years or older than 27 years of age.
- You must have been in contact with the Vocation Director for not less than one year.
- You must be a baptised and confirmed Catholic.
- You must enjoy good bodily and mental health.
- You must be sufficiently mature to shoulder responsibility.



Sensitization on Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking.

## Educational Requirements

- Five credits in SHS including English and Mathematics.
- Post-Secondary Education including a credit in English and a pass in Mathematics.
- Only two re-sits are allowed.



Aspirants with their animators at Morin house, Tamale.

"You will be my witnesses to the ends of the Earth." (Acts 1:8)

## Countries where we work in AFRICA

Algeria /Burkina Faso /Burundi /Democratic Republic of the Congo /Côte d'Ivoire /Egypt /Ethiopia /Ghana / Kenya /Malawi /Mali /Mauritania /Mozambique / Niger /Nigeria /Rwanda /South Africa /Sudan /South Sudan /Tanzania /Togo /Tunisia /Uganda /Zambia.

## EUROPE

Belgium /France /Germany /Great Britain /Italy / Ireland /Netherlands /Poland /Spain /Switzerland

## AMERICA

Brazil /Canada /Mexico /United States

## ASIA

India /Philippines

## MIDDLE EAST

Jerusalem /Lebanon

## For further information please write to

The Vocation Director  
Missionaries of Africa  
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Tamale, N/R, Ghana.

## Morin House - Vocation Centre

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Facebook page @MAfrGhanaNigeria

Provincial Website: www.mafrghananigeria.com

International Website: www.mafr.org

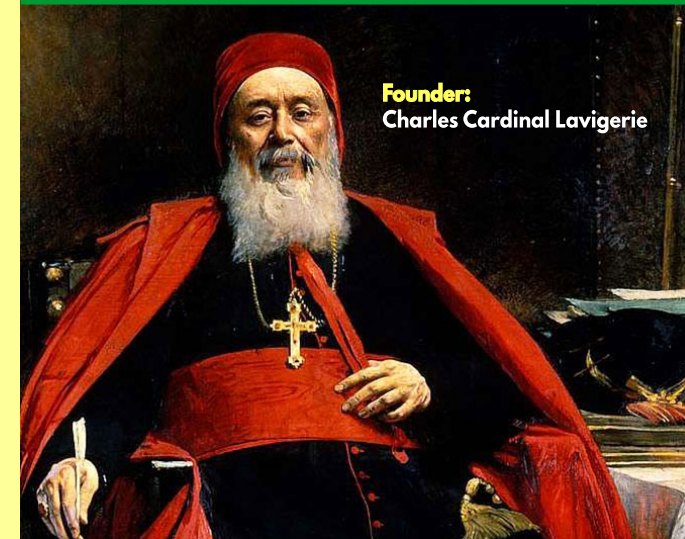
Support us, be a missionary with the Missionaries of Africa by praying for us and advising us.

*The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest. (Lk 10:2)*

M.Afr, together let us make the African World our Small Christian Community.

# MISSIONARIES OF AFRICA

(White Fathers)



Founder:  
Charles Cardinal Lavigerie

Be Apostles, nothing but Apostles.

*A passion for Africa and the peoples of Africa.*



## Is the Lord calling me to be a missionary?



General Council (2010-2016): In the middle, a Ghanaian, Richard Baawobr M.Afr, then Superior General, now Bishop of Wa, Ghana.

## Who Are We, Missionaries of Africa?

The General Chapter of the Missionaries of Africa (M.Afr) held in 2016 answered: *Filled with the joy of the Gospel and guided by the Spirit, we are an intercultural Missionary Society with a family spirit sent out to the African world and wherever our charism is needed, for a prophetic mission of encounter and of witness to the love of God.*

## What Is in a Name?

The first article of our Constitutions and Laws of 2018 states: *Our Society was founded in 1868 by Cardinal Lavigerie, Archbishop of Algiers. It is a Missionary Institute of Priests and Brothers living in community. Its aim is to proclaim the Gospel to the peoples of the African World. Because of its origins the Society has always had a particular interest in Muslims. It has chosen as its name 'the Society of Missionaries of Africa'.*

From the very beginning, our principle was to adapt as much as possible to the local customs of the people among whom we worked. Thus we adopted the dress of the local men of Algeria: the white *gandoura* and *burnous* with the red *chechia*.

For this reason we were given the nickname of the 'White Fathers' to distinguish us from the ordinary clergy of Europe who wore a black cassock.

## What Is Our Charism?

A charism or charisma is a divine gift, favour or grace. We have received different gifts from God as individuals and as a group of people. Thus we talk of the charisms of the Holy Spirit.

In one word, the charism of the Missionaries of Africa is Evangelisation. Evangelisation should be understood as seen today in our apostolate not only in parishes of primary evangelisation but above all in going out to the peripheries of the African World through our commitment to Life in Intercultural Communities; to Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation; to Encounter and Dialogue with the other.

Celebrating the 150th anniversary of our foundation, Pope Francis reminded us: *Dear friends, you know that when Bishop Lavigerie, then Archbishop of Algiers, was led by the Spirit to found the Society of Missionaries of Africa, then the Congregation of Missionary Sisters, he had in his heart the passion for the Gospel and the desire that it be proclaimed to all, making himself "every thing to all" (cf. 1 Cor 9:22). For this reason, your roots are marked by Mission ad extra; it is in your DNA.*



Fr Stanley Lubungo (Superior General of M.Afr) with Pope Francis.

## Where Is a Missionary of Africa Sent?

He is sent to work mostly in Africa and wherever Africans are living but usually not in his own country. He will concentrate on places where the Good News of Jesus is not yet known. Many will work among Muslims.

## Christ's Command

An enormous task still remains to bring the Good News of Christ to millions of African men and women. The command of Christ to his follower is clear. *Go out into the whole world and preach the Gospel to all creation (Mk 16:15). Go therefore and make disciples of all nations (Mt 28:19).*

## A Disciplined Disciple

The disciple is called to follow in the footsteps of his Master. Thus a Missionary of Africa is called to live a simple life style. He promises and swears to be obedient to his Superiors in all that concerns his Mission and Community Life and to observe celibacy for the sake of the Kingdom.

He has to be a man of faith, hope and charity, ready to live in an intercultural community, ideally with two other confreres, as an apostolic witness. As Missionaries of Africa we talk of *Esprit de corps* to express our fraternal love as confreres.

The Missionary is to learn and speak the language of the people to whom he is sent, eat their food, dress like them. In this way he will embark on the wish of the Founder who willed to make himself *everything to all* (cf. 1 Cor 9:22). And in the words of Pope Francis, *Evangelizers thus take the "smell of the sheep" and the sheep are willing to hear their voice (Evangelii Gaudium no 24).*

## Missionaries of Africa in Ghana

Cardinal Lavigerie understood from the very beginning that *Africa will be converted by Africans*. And Saint Paul VI, on his visit to Uganda, in 1979 also stressed that: *Africans must become missionaries to themselves.*

Following our statistics of January 2019, we were 1191 Missionaries of Africa from 36 different countries serving in 42 countries. A quick count reveals that 370 confreres originate from Africa, among whom 34 from Ghana.

We arrived in Ghana, in Navrongo, Upper East, in 1906. From there we evangelized the North Ghana now known as Ecclesiastical Province of Tamale which includes the dioceses of Navrongo-Bolgatanga, Tamale, Wa, Damongo and Yendi. Currently we are present in five dioceses in Ghana: Navrongo-Bolgatanga, Wa, Tamale, Konongo-Mampong and Kumasi. We still need more vocations, and you could be one of them, to join the more than 500 candidates preparing themselves in our formation houses to join the Mission.

## What Are the Phases of Our Formation?

After a preparatory year in Nigeria for both Ghanaian and Nigerian candidates, there are the following four phases:

- **First phase:** four years of philosophical studies in Ejisu near Kumasi.
- **Second phase:** one year called Spiritual Year or Novitiate in Burkina Faso, Tanzania or Zambia.
- **Third phase:** two years of Stage or apostolic training in one of our communities, usually somewhere in Africa.
- **Fourth phase:** four years of theological studies in D.R.Congo, Ivory Coast, Jerusalem, Kenya or South Africa



Novices with some confreres in Burkina Faso.