

Comet Inspiring Leader Spotlight

Father Marc Nkulu, SMA



Family/ Hometown: I am Father Marc NGOMBANDA NKULU. My DOB is October 24th 1982. Originally I am from Djuma, a city of the central West of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) where I graduated from high school. We have two seasons; dry and rainy. DRC is a country blessed and surrounded with many rivers and lakes:Kwilu, Kivu, Tanganyika, Kalemie, Congo, Kasai, Mayi ndombe, Kwango etc. I speak French, Swahili, English, Kikongo, Lingala, Yansi and simple Yoruba (from Nigeria).

I was brought up in a big family of 11. 7 brothers and 4 sisters and I am the baby. Two of my elder brothers died when I was very little. Actually we consider ourselves as a family of 9, 5 brothers and 4 sisters. My dad died on June 9th 2006 at the age of 69 while my mummy died on 1 April 2022 at the age of 82.

Educational background: I studied in Congo (DRC), my Primary school in Kabeya/Mikwi and my secondary and high school in Kizito/Djuma in Mathematics and Physics. I had preparatory program with the SMA, then 3 Years of Philosophical studies at Saint Augustine University of Kinshasa, then my Theological studies at Tangaza University College in Nairobi /Kenya East Africa.

My Journey to Priesthood: I was validly Ordained a Catholic Priest on the 10th of May 2015 in Kinshasa/ DRC by the Auxiliary Bishop of Kinshasa, Bishop Edouard Kisonga. After my ordination I was assigned in Nigeria. I worked there as a parochial vicar of Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Apapa Lagos for 3 years. Then I was assigned back to Congo and I worked there as a pastor for 4 years at Saint Bartholomew Parish, in Kinshasa . At the same time I was elected as the Vice-Superior of the SMA in Congo for 3 years and as the bursar of the SMA in Congo for 3 years. I came to America first in 2018 for summer under the SMA for 3 months and worked at Saint Michael Parish, Hudson, Massachusetts. There I worked as a chaplain at Holy Names Hospital, Teaneck New Jersey before coming to Saint Thomas the Apostle via Kewanee.

Dream Meals: I have been blessed with a missionary stomach that does not have a problem with any type of food. From where I come from, we do have as daily meal the mixture of Cassava and Mais powder cooked and called Fufu which is eaten with any kind of soup. It is always delicious especially when eaten with fingers. I like fumbwa, cassava leaves and pork meat.

Interests / Hobbies: I used to play football, American Soccer, as a right defender before the age of football retreat. I even became the head coach of the SMA football team in Nairobi Kenya, and led the team up to semi-finals. I also play table tennis. I am a good fan of football, since I have been supporting Manchester City, declared recently as the best team in the world. I also do enjoy congolese music sometimes.