



Fr. Antonio Porcellato

Originally from the diocese of Treviso in Italy, Fr. Antonio Porcellato was born on March 28, 1955. He joined the SMA in 1974. Ordained a priest in 1980, he was posted to Abidjan (Ivory Coast) where he obtained a degree in pastoral theology at the Catholic Institute of West Africa (ICAO). He was appointed parochial vicar at the parish of St. Paul in San Pedro until 1985. After 10 years in Italy as a vocations animator, formator and Provincial Councilor, he joined the team of formators at the de Brésillac Center of the International Spiritual Year, in Abomey-Calavi (Benin) from 1995 to 1996. It was the beginning of a long sojourn in Africa that would lead him successively to the SMA house formation in Ibadan (Nigeria) as a spiritual director then Vice-Superior of the SMA African District-in-formation (ADF) in Lome (Togo) from 2001 to 2007. In 2007, Fr. Antonio was elected Vice-Superior of the SMA Italian Province. He was then in charge of missionary and vocational animation in the community of Feriole near Padua (Italy). On April 30, 2013, he was elected SMA Vicar General. Within the Council, he was involved in a reflection on the spiritual heritage of the family of African Missions, he collaborated with other institutes and missionary groups with the same SMA charismatic inspiration. The 2019 General Assembly has just made him the 16th Superior General of the Society of African Missions. He is the first Italian to assume this office, succeeding Fr. Fathna O'Driscoll, an Irishman.