

PRESS RELEASE

9th JUNE 2009

PUBLIC DECLARATION OF REV. LUCIANO ANZANGA MBEWE'S EXCOMMUNICATION FROM THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

It is with great sadness that the Zambia Episcopal Conference (ZEC) publicly announces that Rev. **LUCIANO ANZANGA MBEWE** has been excommunicated from the Catholic Church.

The Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, in Rome, has declared that Rev. Luciano Anzanga Mbeve has incurred into a "*latae sententiae*" excommunication because of the offence of schism (*delictum*), according to Canon. 1364 & 1 of the Code of Canon law (C.J.C.).

This decision, to excommunicate Rev. LUCIANO ANZANGA MBEWE, is motivated by two main facts: the foundation of a schismatic church "**Catholic Apostolic National Church of Zambia**" and his declaration to have received a so-called "Episcopal ordination" by "clergy" linked to the "Old Catholic Church of Europe".

The Ex-communication means that the said Rev. Luciano Anzanga Mbeve is no longer a member of the Catholic Church, and whatever religious functions he may be holding, are being done outside the Catholic Church. Even if signs and symbols, as well as attire being used during the services resemble those of the Catholic Church, the services conducted are not part of the Catholic Church.

We however urge our Catholic faithful and other Christians to continue praying for our brother, in spite of being separated, by his own actions, from the Catholic Church.

Signed:

Rt. Rev. George Lungu
Bishop of Chipata
President – ZEC