

- **Brother Antoine, could you introduce yourself briefly?**

- Brother Antoine (BA): I am an Assumptionist, born in Alsatia (France), from a peasant family that was deeply Catholic. I made my first vows in 1955. As a young religious I pursued a dream of becoming a missionary --- first in Ivory Coast and then in Madagascar.

- **You were a missionary in Madagascar for 30 years and here you are again a missionary, this time in Burkina Faso. What keeps you going?**

- BA: What a question! Let's be clear. Assumption is a large family of religious present in many countries and involved in many experiences. From the beginning, the idea of mission was important to Fr. d'Alzon, our founder. Today, in West Africa, Assumption is offering young men an opportunity to join us and receive a formation in our charism. Fr. Jean-Paul Sagadou has attracted many young people in Togo and now in Burkina Faso. I am here to offer a helping hand in the short time that my age allows.



- **You've now been here for a year? What are you feeling?**



- BA: I'm still learning. At the moment it would be hard to say anything. My experience is limited to the local market-place, to the cathedral nearby in our neighborhood, to the numerous mosques, to the many active Christian base communities. I am busy from early morning to late at night. One thing I can say --- I have been warmly received!

- **You have come to a community that has just been founded; do you have a sense that things are well underway?**

- BA: I can see that the young religious here in Ougadougou have received a good formation during their novitiate. The community life is solid. The life of prayer, meals, daily chores, etc ---- everything seems to be well organized. The workday here begins very early since students in the community must get to classes. That means breakfast and community prayer before they leave.

- **What do you see as your role in the community? Are you happy?**





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