



Ewuaso oo' Nkidongi Parish Newsletter n. 42

April 2019

Ewuaso Kedong - Saikeri - Najile - Enkorika & Empaash Mass Centres

CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF NGONG

Celebrating the Year of Mission 2019



THEME: "BAPTIZED AND SENT, THE CHURCH ON A MISSION"
"Let us bring the Gospel to all" (Mt. 28:19-20)

Once again I take this opportunity, as we enter Holy Week and begin our preparations to celebrate the Feast of the Resurrection, to send my greetings and some news from here in Ewuaso to you all and to wish you a happy Easter.

In Ireland they say that the weather is always a topic of conversation and the same can be said here but for a different reason. We are about to exit the months when the rains should have come and still no sign of a drop. As the rains in October/November also failed things are not looking good. Already we are getting reports of cattle dying and others too weak to stand on their own. It is only a matter of time before people start the long and dangerous trek in search of grazing.

Whether we call what is happening to our world climate change or global warming something is happening. The heat this year is more than I have experienced in all my time here in Ewuaso. The effects on the people, of these much more regular periods of drought, is taking its toll.

In 2018, after the rains at the beginning of the year, we stopped our Relief Food program which was supporting over 500 of the most needy families in the parish. We began it again, albeit on a lesser scale, at the end of January for 60 families who are in dire need. With God's help we will be continuing until the end of this year with this help.

Our program of supplying drinking water to the people of Enkorika is also continuing and they are very grateful for the help received. Thankfully some money was donated by people in Wisconsin, USA to pay for the buying and transporting of water the 20 miles by road from source to tank.

Saikeri School

Our new kindergarten school in Saikeri opened on the 7th of January this year with 35 pupils and a wonderful dedicated woman called Irene as teacher.



the children in their new classroom



Teacher Irene with some of the pupils

In January of the coming year we will be accepting 35 more pupils. The school is

registered and run under the auspices of the school we already have in Ewuaso Kedong. This will bring the total number of children in Baraka Catholic Kindergarten in Ewuaso and Saikeri to 280.

While the children are receiving breakfast and lunch in these months thanks to the donor who gave generously to build the school we are hoping from July to have the food included in our feeding and nutrition program funded by Cross Catholic Outreach.



Porridge before class

Parish Church

We continued over the last few months with the building of our parish church.



It has now reached roof level and the people are planning another fund raiser later in the year to continue with the building.



This project was begun in 2015 and will probably take a few more years to complete as all the money is being raised by the people themselves. And it is and will be a building they can be proud of in more ways than one.

Rescue Centre

The staff of the Rescue Centre for girls continue to work, not only in caring for and educating the girls rescued, but also in their outreach program to villages, schools and churches in far flung areas of the parish where the practices of Female Genital Mutilation and Early Child Marriage are still practiced. Despite some setbacks their work seems to be having a positive effect and they are highly respected within the local community. This has led to an increase in their work load as they receive many requests from parents who are looking for different types of help with their children, ranging from advice and counselling to seeking suitable schools for them.

Most recently, stemming from the work we do with the physically and mentally challenged within the community, which comes under the project name Rose of Lima Group, they have sent many children for assessment to the Government Children's Department and also begun helping parents to register with the Government in the hope that they will be eligible to get help.



We currently sponsor 6 children in Special Schools and have been able to help many over the last number of years, whether it was with palliative care, operations, equipment to make them mobile or just glasses for a girl thought to be blind, we do our bit with the help we receive.



We hope, that by helping them register their disabled family members, the Government will also be able to help.

Diocese

As you will see from the banner on the first page the Diocese is celebrating a YEAR OF MISSION this year. It was launched in October with a mass in the Cathedral and the Bishop blessing the 'tools of mission' (a Bible, Catechism, Rosary, Candle, Globe and Cross)



These 'tools' will pass through the whole Diocese during the course of the year. They will arrive in Ewuaso on the 5th of May and we pray will help us all to a greater awareness of our Christian vocation, 'Baptised and Sent'

I thank all those who have helped us in any way and continue to ask for your prayer support, especially for the blessing of rain. **God bless you all and have a VERY HAPPY EASTER.**