

# SHUKRAN

ALL FOR THE GLORY OF GOD

Shukran  
Swahili/Arabic  
for Gratitude

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## SHOWING THE WAY TO GOD

Show the way to God through the Spiritual Exercises and discernment







# DEAR FRIENDS,

We see yet another year drawing to a close and for us at the Province Development Office, we are only immensely filled with gratitude to you all for the tremendous support you have accorded us in realising most of our undertakings. The highlight for the support staff this year is that our new working space in Kangemi was officially opened and blessed by Father Provincial, Kizito Kiyimba, SJ, on May 1st 2023, feast of St Joseph the Worker. As you may all know, one great way of enhancing creativity and improving productivity is through provision of better working spaces. This, we now truly attest to at *The Workshop* as it has come to be called.

Yet, this year, the Development Office resolved to step a bit out of boardrooms and get physically engaged with field work. We organised a Workshop on Project Development and Management for Jesuit Directors of Works and their Collaborators in Nairobi from June 25 to 28 2023. The ripple effects of this venture can already be felt across the Eastern Africa Province as the quality of projects on the ground is improving by the day. Talking of Workshops, yours truly managed to undergo similar drills in Rome from October 09 to 13 2023 organised by Sofia Global. In the same spirit, we managed to procure funds that went towards provision of WASH facilities both at Kangemi Primary School and at the New Kihumbuini Primary School. We went ahead to provide psychosocial support to the pupils and also gave a two-day entrepreneurial skills' training to selected small business operators within Kangemi slums. As if that was not enough, our Office moved over 250KM out of Nairobi for a drought response exercise in Kitui county to implement two food distribution exercises, in addition to doing training on sustainable farming in drought-stricken regions. This was concluded with a tree-planting campaign whereby 1000 trees were planted at a local secondary school.

The immense new Province project of putting up a model learning institute in Bonga, South West of Ethiopia is steadily picking momentum. As all the legal bureaucracies get almost done, the project is in motion with the construction of a Jesuit residence at the site and already three Jesuits are on site to not only see to it that work moves smoothly, but also to acquaint themselves with the environs. A name for the centre has finally been arrived at, namely, Ariyo Catholic Learning Institute.

These and many more success stories are reasons enough to say Shukran once again. In these days, as we ponder anew on this divine mystery of God taking on our frail human nature, we can say to you, our esteemed partners and friends, that you have partly explained to us what it means to be incarnate in human suffering. You have eased our missionary work of preaching Christ among so many people. For us Jesuits, we are convinced that our service to the Church and humanity is to be contemplatives in action especially in those geographical and spiritual places where others do not reach or find difficult reaching. But let's face it, without you, this mission would have been a dead letter! May this Holy Season therefore bring ye forth glad tidings and good health galore, to you and all your loved ones both now and in the awaited New Year 2024.

Shukran!

Yours in Christ's Mission,

\_\_\_\_\_  
Allan Ggita, SJ.  
Director | AOR Development Office



## UNIVERSAL APOSTOLIC PREFERENCES



The Universal Apostolic Preferences (UAPs) are the fruit of a discernment process that lasted almost two years, in which all Jesuits together with their partners fully participated. It concluded with a confirmation from Pope Francis in a special meeting with Father General Arturo Sosa. The Preferences give a horizon, a point of reference to the whole Society of Jesus. They capture our imaginations and awaken our desires. They unite us in our mission. The new Preferences are four areas vital for our world today.

The Society of Jesus will pay special attention to these four areas in the next ten years, 2019~2029. We invite you to learn more and take action with us! We want to make a Gospel difference.

Although the Universal Apostolic Preferences (UAPs) may inspire us to confirm current ministries or lead to new ones, they are not primarily about things to do. They represent four ways in which we are searching to discover the signs of the Spirit at work. In a sense, we may see the UAPs as four roads on which we are invited to walk with others. As we do so, we will discover new apostolic companions, many of whom may often be ahead of us. It is also a source of consolation for us that the UAPs express some of the key directions the Church has also identified as part of her mission. At the deepest level, they speak of our desire to be drawn more closely to God and to discern the ways in which God is working in our world.

The UAPs are part of our own process of renewal. They will become important ways into our processes of discernment. If they are to touch us in these ways, it would be good if we could first let them become part of our prayer. The liturgical season of Advent gives us a natural opportunity for this. With Lent, it marks out a time when the Church desires to prepare herself to enter more deeply into the mystery of Christ's incarnation and his work of redemption. In Advent we can let our prayer illuminate the UAPs, asking that we may be open to whatever graces of renewal, insight and understanding God wishes to offer us.





# Stay awake!

Advent is the liturgical season with which the Church starts the liturgical year and also mark a spiritual path towards Christmas. This season was likely first commemorated in the fifth century, drawing its origins from the tradition of fasting several times a week, beginning on St. Martin de Tours' Feast Day (November 11) till Christmas Day. Nowadays, Advent always starts about four weeks before Christmas, on the Sunday closest to St. Andrew's Feast Day (November 30).

At the beginning of this year's Advent, Jesus sends out a strong message: "Therefore, stay awake!", an urgency of witnessing in the Christian life. Ironically, this year's Advent will be relatively brief, just three weeks instead of the usual four! This calls to memory that famous Advent hymn with a social justice focus composed by the Medical Mission Sister, Miriam Therese Winter in 1966, *Come Lord Jesus*, in which she beckons Christ to come quickly, because there's a looming danger at the door.

The word "advent" comes from the Latin, *Adventus*, which means "arrival". The Greek equivalent is *παρουσία (parousia)*. In Hellenistic Greek *parousia* had become a technical word for the arrival of an emperor, a king, a governor, or a high official into a town or province. This arrival always had to find you awake and alert. Early Christians took over the word to designate the coming of Christ in glory to judge the world. Some of the readings of Advent do look forward to the second coming of Christ, but the season of Advent also looks backwards to his first coming in Bethlehem. Advent is therefore an in-between time, the "already" but also the "not yet". In the words of theologian Fleming Rutledge: "Advent is the Time Between - between the first coming of Christ and the second coming, between darkness and dawn, between the kingdoms of this world and the kingdom of heaven. It is not the time of fulfillment. It is the time of waiting, an intense waiting. It is not the time of "seeing face-to face". It is the time of seeing "through a glass, darkly" (1 Corinthians 13:12). When the world was darkest, there was born unto us Christ, who is the light of the world.

At the beginning of each new year, we always tend to look back over the past year, and we look forward to the year ahead. That is precisely what we do at Advent. We look back to the first coming of Christ in Bethlehem and we also look forward to his second coming in glory. The Fathers of the Church, especially Cyril of Jerusalem linked the Lord's coming to Bethlehem with his second coming in glory at the end of time. "We preach not one coming only of Jesus Christ, but a second also, far more glorious than the first. The first revealed the meaning of his patient endurance; the second brings with it the crown of the divine kingdom". In their eyes, despite the lowly state of the Lord in the crib, Christmas is a victory feast, connected both with the redemptive triumph of the Cross and with the final triumph of Christ at his return.

With no doubt, Advent has various invitations for us Christians today. It reminds us that Jesus came two thousand years ago and that he will come again at a specified though unknown time. But just as importantly, it reminds us that Jesus will come again today, yes today ... in the reality of our less privileged brothers and sisters. Therefore, it requires one to be attentive to the signs of God's presence in the most unlikely places and the most unlikely people. That is why a "Stay Awake!" call runs through our Advent readings. This time we are called to stay awake, eager and ready to meet our Lord in the daily moments of our lives. Don't be anxious while waiting though; wait with eagerness and joy.

Michael Kyalo Kinaka, SJ.



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# Jimma-Bonga, Ethiopia

## A concise overview of Bonga

Bonga is a place of breathtaking natural beauty. The lush green landscapes, pristine waterfalls, and serene coffee plantations paint a picture of tranquility. The rich cultural heritage and warm hospitality of the locals make it an unforgettable experience. Bonga truly captures the essence of Ethiopia's natural wonders.

### IMAGE 1

*The splendor of the tea plantation in Bonga*

### IMAGE 2

*The image on the left depicts the collaborative efforts of the Jesuits and the local community as they work together to repair the road, and the image on the right hand depicts the government overseeing the construction of the road.*



## Getting ready for the upcoming mission

The Jesuits in Bonga prioritize providing equal access to education for all students and promoting equality and empowerment. The focus is not only on academic excellence but also on personal development, fostering self-awareness, confidence, and self-esteem. The Jesuits also prepare to promote appreciation, preservation, and protection of biodiversity, encouraging environmental stewardship among students. Jesuit's comprehensive approach prepares students for success and will enable them to make positive impacts in their lives and communities. By creating a safe and supportive learning environment and emphasizing equality, inclusiveness, and environmental stewardship, the Jesuits in Bonga are commendably prioritizing the holistic development of students for a sustainable future.





**IMAGE 3**

The first image displays the 3D of the Jesuit house, while the second picture depicts the Jesuits alongside the engineers, technicians, and workers. (Photo taken at the site by Tigiti, SJ)



***“More than ever I find myself in the hands of God. This is what I have wanted all my life from my youth. But now there is a difference; the initiative is entirely with God. It is indeed a profound spiritual experience to know and feel myself so totally in God’s hands.”***

*-Pedro Arrupe SJ*

**Renewed optimism emerges within the community of Bonga**

The people have embraced the new project of building a school with great enthusiasm. The positive presence of the Jesuits has been instrumental in garnering widespread support and cooperation from the community. The construction of the school has not only brought hope for a brighter future for the children, but it has also provided employment opportunities for the local workforce, stimulating economic growth. The community deeply appreciates the dedication and passion that the Jesuits have shown towards education and the overall development of the area. This project has truly strengthened the bond between the people and the Jesuits, fostering a spirit of collaboration and progress.

Linus Tigiti, SJ

**The Jesuits truly serve as a great example**

The Jesuits in Bonga exemplify a profound commitment to the community even before the completion of the house. The mission recognizes the need for Ignatian spirituality and spiritual accompaniment among the local people. Moreover, the Jesuits engage with the neighborhood by addressing pressing issues like road conditions and other social concerns. Their collaborative efforts with religious organizations and tribal unions showcase an inspiring model of peace and unity. Despite ongoing construction, the Jesuits leave a lasting impact on the lives of Bonga’s residents through their unwavering dedication to the promotion of quality education.



# Mutomo. Kitui Project

**"If our church is not marked by caring for the poor, the oppressed, the hungry, we are guilty of heresy."**  
 — Ignatius of Loyola

With support from the German Jesuit Mission, the AOR Jesuit Development Office joined efforts with the government and other non-governmental organizations in Kenya in conducting food distribution that aimed at supplementing food rations to help meet the immediate household nutritional needs of affected families in Mutomo Sub County, Kitui County, Kenya. It saw 2000 beneficiaries receive rations of maize, beans, rice, wheat flour, and cooking oil. This immensely contributed towards building some resilience in affected communities.



**IMAGE**

*Food distribution at the Mutomo Chiefs Camp*



**IMAGE**

*Fr Allan Ggita, SJ, AOR Director of Development, planting a Candelnut tree at St Patrick's Secondary School Mutomo*



Also, for a long-term impact, some selected beneficiaries were trained on alternative sustainable livelihood activities that will see them engage in some short-term agricultural activities. It will enable them to establish small interventions that will work towards supplementing their food base within households. Such trainings included the establishment of kitchen gardening, Zai pits, moist beds, and sunken beds.

Additionally, the project witnessed the planting of over 1000 tree seedlings at St. Patrick's Secondary School, Mutomo. This step will immensely contribute to the government's call for the planting of over 15 billion trees countrywide.

*Be generous to the poor orphans and those in need. The man to whom our Lord has been liberal ought not to be stingy. We shall one day find in Heaven as much rest and joy as we ourselves have dispensed in this life.*

- Saint Ignatius

## In Memoriam



Fr Bernard Victor Mallia, SJ (Abuna) - Born: 07.04.1941 - Joined Jesuits: 10.10.1959 - Ordained Priest: 09.12.1973 - Final Vows: 15.08.1981 - Died: 04.02.2023

**Abuna Mallia had a very Strong devotion to Mother Mary, A poetic singer and a friend to many.**

When I first met Mallia, it clicked to me that he had a very strong devotion to Mama Mary. During a first vows taking ceremony for some novices, at dinner time he shared with us copies of a drafted song that all through indicated his passionate love for Mother Mary. And that left me fascinated since the way his name was pronounced, I thought it was 'Maria!' Anyone who had a chat with him, would be send away with blessings by always placing his hand on that person's forehead. May he continue RIP

Damaris J. Kamanthe



# The Relevance of Radio Kwizera in Northwestern Tanzania

This year, Radio Kwizera marks 28 years of its existence. The radio first hit the airwaves on August 12, 1995. By then, it only covered a radius of about 300 km. Now, it covers between 800-900 square kilometers. It has also moved from analog transmissions to digital satellite transmissions on KU Band-streamed satellites manned by the government of Azerbaijan.

Since its inception in 1995 by JRS as a response against hate, Radio 'Kwizera,' which means

ments in their own country. However, instead of supporting just a network of information, doing so through a radio station became more plausible.

Over the years, the radio developed an audience among the Tanzanian population. *Radio Kwizera* has three types of listeners who are now under its scope: refugees, rural villages in the western regions, a segment of people from Burundi, Rwanda, Uganda, the DRC Congo, and especially areas close to the Tanzanian border that have *Radio Kwizera coverage*.

The radio audience has grown from 5 million in 2005 to over 10.3 million in 2023. The operations have never only remained at the studio but equally at the community level, where, in collaboration with partners, they support interventions on environmental protection, responsible parenting and family care, sustainable agriculture and food security, good governance, public accountability, preventive and curative health care, peacebuilding and reconciliation, access to quality education, pastoral care, and so forth.

Spiritual dimensions of the intervention are aligned with the universal apostolic priorities, i.e., educating her audience to find their true self and to allow God to find them, to walk with the excluded – promoting social justice and the change of economic, political and social structures that generate injustice; care for migrants, displaced persons, refugees and victims of wars and human trafficking; as proposed by Father General Arturo Sosa, i.e., "collaborating with others in the construction of alternative models of life that are based on respect for creation and on a sustainable development capable of producing

goods that, when justly distributed, ensure a decent life for all human beings on our planet." [1]

Since there are still more than 247,000 refugees from Burundi and the Democratic Republic of Congo in Nduta and Nyarugusu camps in the Kigoma region of Northwestern Tanzania, all radio messaging done by Radio Kwizera targets both refugees and the refugee host communities.

Among many of the interventions implemented by *Radio Kwizera* are good parenting and family care, radio messaging through daily radio spots, episodes of radio drama, radio documentaries, radio magazines, and live studio discussions. Since 2021 and in partnership with UNICEF, a total of 1,150,641 parents and child care-givers have directly been reached with good parenting messaging, i.e., 167,067 refugees and 983,574 people from the host communities. Indirectly, over 8 million people also reached out via general radio messaging as per the radio audience feedback. 85% of the population directly reached the continue show, often calling the radio studio, showing willingness to be more responsible in child upbringing. A number of men are changing against their previously held beliefs that "the upbringing of a child is a woman's role."

Also, through door-to-door COVID-19 vaccination awareness raising by Community Health Workers engaged by Radio Kwizera and radio messaging done, 162,500 people were reached out to, of which 78,953 vaccinated: 43,211 men and 35,742 wo-



**IMAGE 1**

*Mr. Eric – a legendary journalist and one first journalists when the station opened on the 12th of August 1995.*

**IMAGE 2**

*Current Coverage of Radio Kwizera 2023*

*“We ourselves feel that what we are doing is just a drop in the ocean. But the ocean would be less because of that missing drop.” - Mother Teresa of Calcutta*

hope in Kinyarwanda/Kirundi, has been broadcast within a radius of 300 kilometers. Before engaging in radio broadcast, the initial objective was to establish a network of information through public address systems, roadside billboards, a library, newsletters, and posters to reach out to refugees. And the aim was to support the physical and mental well-being of the refugees by helping with reconciliation, assisting with refugee camp management, being a pastoral tool for JRS, and keeping refugees informed of develop-



**IMAGE 3**

Radio Kwizera technician installing KU Band Satellite transmission on which the radio streams to Karagwe area in Northwestern Tanzania: Photo by Angelo Munduni Dema, SJ



**IMAGE 4**

Radio Kwizera project implementors demonstrating low-emission wood fuel cook stoves to project beneficiaries. The stove uses less firewood and pollutes less – thus a step against deforestation and kitchen pollution. Photo by Radio Kwizera Journalist

**IMAGE 5**

Radio Kwizera workers harvesting some of the seedlings to be given to beneficiaries. Photo by Angelo Munduni Dema, Director Radio Kwizera



men. More men vaccinate because some men-hardliners refuse their spouses to vaccinate due to the misconception that the vaccines would make their wives barren.

In response to environmental protection, Radio Kwizera, with the support of Jesuit Mission UK, continues to promote the use of low-emission wood-fuel cook stoves. The project fabricated 208 cook stoves and distributed them to targeted beneficiaries, especially those in rural areas who have a heavy dependence on wood fuel for cooking. The project produced over 8,000 tree seedlings and distributed them to individuals and groups (especially radio listener club groups).

With DW Akademie support, Radio Kwizera continues to provide relevant information to refugees and the locals in northwestern Tanzania on a number of issues, such as providing public education against harmful gender myths and practices, addressing the problem of mental health, issues of personal security, family planning in accordance with Catholic social teaching, and so forth. Through radio messaging in various forms (radio spots, dramas, documentaries, and live studio discussions), a total of 232,882 beneficiaries (142,336 males and 90,546 females) have been reached out to, and of the total, 95,240 are refugees and 137,642 are from the host communities around the refugee camps in Kigoma in Northwestern Tanzania.

Radio Kwizera broadcasts 24/7. The schedule includes educational broadcasting for primary schools; programs on gender issues, mother and child health, environment, sanitation, agriculture, and livestock management; news; current affairs; youth and children's programs; religious segments; development ini-

tiatives; greetings; and music. NGOs collaborate on various topics: education, health, women's issues, water and sanitation, immunization campaigns, and the environment.

The station lists among its policy issues concerns for the poor and powerless, women and youth, cultural creativity, inter-religious dialogue, and staff development. In collaboration with BBC Media Action and DW Akademie from Germany, the station continues to provide training to its staff to enhance their broadcasting skills. It also provides internship opportunities for youth who are interested in a radio broadcasting career.

Fr. Damas Missanga, SJ, Scholastic Julius Sajilo, and Scholastic Christy from Hekima College are regular contributors to some of the religious programs aired on Radio Kwizera. Fr. Damas's "Tafakari" (homilies) aired on Saturday evenings is popular among the listeners. Scholastic Julius Sajilo and Christy from Burundi, who contribute 1-minute homilies aired every day

from Monday to Saturday, are also liked by the listeners.

Despite all the progress that has been made, funding, quality staff, and the need for more modern equipment still pose major obstacles to the effective operation of radio, not to mention the government's ever-changing policy requirements regarding media activities in Tanzania.

Otherwise, tune to Radio Kwizera from its website, [www.radiokwizera.co.tz](http://www.radiokwizera.co.tz) or use any other online platform that includes Radio Kwizera, such as Tuneln, Radio Garden, [onlineradiobox.com](http://onlineradiobox.com), streama, and so forth.

Angelo Munduni Dema, SJ



**serviam**

Official opening and blessing of the Province Development Offices in Kangemi on May 1st 2023 by Fr Kizito Kiyimba, SJ. Provincial of Eastern Africa, Feast of St Joseph the Worker



**SAINT JOSEPH  
THE WORKER**

"Each of us can discover in Joseph - the man who goes unnoticed, a daily, discreet and hidden presence - an intercessor, a support and a guide in times of trouble. Saint Joseph reminds us that those who appear hidden or in the shadows can play an incomparable role in the history of salvation."

*Pope Francis*







## Ad maiorem Dei gloriam

JDO Director, Fr Allan Ggita, SJ, attended a SOFIA Grant Writing and Fundraising Workshop Oct 09 - 13 2023 in Rome, courtesy of Miseen Cara

"TRY TO KEEP YOUR SOUL ALWAYS IN PEACE AND QUIET, ALWAYS READY FOR WHATEVER OUR LORD MAY WISH TO WORK IN YOU. IT IS CERTAINLY A HIGHER VIRTUE OF THE SOUL, AND A GREATER GRACE, TO BE ABLE TO ENJOY THE LORD IN DIFFERENT TIMES AND DIFFERENT PLACES THAN IN ONLY ONE." — ST. IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA

## MAGIS

Workshop on Project Devt and Management to Jesuit Directors of Works and their Collaborators at Mary Ward Centre Jun 25 to 28 2023





# The Mission Land

The constitutions of the Society of Jesus require a scholastic to experience a Jesuit mission fully and with the spirit of magnanimity. It helps to integrate one into Society's mission under the cross's banner. I thus found myself in Maban County, located in the Upper Nile State of South Sudan. Maban has long been prone to floods, malaria, and clashes, as well as hosting many refugees from neighbouring countries and IDPS from within South Sudan. I refer to it as the mission land because of the various needs that cut across all the spheres (education, pastoral, and social), to mention a few.

The Jesuits attached to JRS Maban tend to interact more with the people of the land since they help in the county's only parish (St. Mark Parish). St. Mark and its close to 47 outstations have not had any parish priests for decades but only depend on the Magis of the Jesuits who are missioning to JRS. With the help of the Jesuits, the parish has the best primary school around, though it needs more resources like classes, teachers, and amenities for girls and boys, among others.

One is moved to service after seeing the joy and commitment of the Christians in different outstations. I could see the joy on the faces of Christians in three outstations I have visited upon receiving a priest after two or three years. Some gather in grass-thatched structures or under big fig trees, which act as the church. Each time I am in this mission land, I am moved by the zeal the children have to receive education and the Christians for a place to meet for prayers and have Holy Mass. I see the hope and commitment in the faces of the Mabanese community.

Nicodemus Mutunga SJ



**MY GOD, I DO NOT KNOW  
WHAT MUST COME TO ME TODAY.  
BUT I AM CERTAIN THAT  
NOTHING CAN HAPPEN  
TO ME THAT YOU HAVE NOT FORESEEN,  
DECREED, AND ORDAINED FROM ALL ETERNITY.  
THAT IS SUFFICIENT FOR ME.**

- ST. JOSEPH PIGNATELLI, SJ



# Kangemi Project

## IMAGE 2

A new installed toilet for the pupils in the New Kihumbuini Primary School

## IMAGE 3

A few pupils after receiving their personal hygiene items



## IMAGE 1

Selected pupils of Kangemi Primary School undergoing psycho-social training



With support from Irish Jesuit International, the Jesuit Development Office also successfully implemented a project towards WASH provision, psychosocial support and entrepreneurial skills training for Kangemi slum dwellers. The selected beneficiaries included pupils from the New Kihumbuini Primary School, Kangemi Primary School, and a few selected small business operators from the Kangemi Slum.

Mainly, the project aimed towards attaining the Sustainable Development Goals and Universal Apostolic Preferences by ensuring that the pre-selected public schools in the Kangemi slum benefit from WASH facility and psychosocial and menstrual hygiene support. It has been realized by the installation of a standard or good toilet as well as the development of hand washing stations in the New Kihumbuini Primary School.

The distribution of personal hygiene items to the pupils was part of the project. These items include tooth brushes, tooth paste, boxers for

*“You know that your toil is not in vain when it is done in the Lord.” - 1 corinthians 15:58*

the young boys, and sanitary towels for the girls. Some selected pupils also underwent training on psychosocial support to equip them with skills on how to manage trauma and its effects in their day-to-day lives.

A total of one hundred and four (104) women and men in Kangemi have been trained on entrepreneurship skills and micro-savings to enhance their knowledge on the creation of savings and loan groups where members can save and borrow small loans to improve their businesses for small income generation.

Damaris J. Kamanthe





## From St. Peter Faber Parish, With Grateful Hearts

**D**ear Friends, Benefactors, and Dear Jesuits: Today, I write this note to thank you all for your great support in building St. Peter Faber Parish and its parish house in Mabibo Dar es Salaam. Without your constant generosity, we could not have achieved this milestone in as short a time as six to seven years. We are very grateful to you; may God bless you all always.

The construction of both the church and the parish house was completed in November 2022. So far, with the generous support of our donors, friends, and the faithful of both St. John the Baptist Parish-Luhanga and St. Peter Faber, we have been able to complete the construction of the church and the painting of the whole structure, including the parish house, which contains five self-contained rooms, a din-

ing room, a kitchen, a TV room, a library, and a laundry. The various parish offices, such as Ofisi Ya Vijina (the youth office) and Ofisi Ya Katekista (the catechist's office), along with other parish structures, are also completed, furnished, and in use. We also installed doors and windows and connected water and electricity. Public toilets for parishioners, and landscaping work (pavement) was successfully done.

On 15th January 2023, the Archbishop, Jude Thaddeus Ruwa'ichi, consecrated the church. It was such a vibrant, spiritual, and powerful celebration of the consecration. At the end of the Eucharist, the Archbishop announced that St. Peter Faber, which was an out-station of St. John the Baptist Luhanga Parish, was now "a parish to be" (in the language of Kiswahili, "Parokia teule."). After the Eucharist, all the faith-

ful present (about 2,000), special guests, and the Jesuits shared a meal and refreshments at Plamodon Hall at Loyola High School.

On 7th July 2023, the Archbishop announced that St. Peter Faber was now an independent parish. On 15th July 2023, His Eminence Polycarp Cardinal Pengo came to administer the Sacrament of Confirmation to sixty-five youths, the first of its kind at St. Peter Faber Parish.

For all the generous support we have received, our special thanks go to the "Jesuitenmission" Nuernberg, the Missions-Procure of the Central-European Province, which contributed more than 50% of the total cost of the construction under the leadership of Fr. Klaus Vaethroder SJ, and now Christian Braunigger, SJ as Directors, and Mr. Thomas Kilian who visited us recently to assess the new parish. It was a pleasure to meet him and an ample opportunity for him to witness the fruits of their generosity. It was also a time to thank all the friends, donors, and supporters who helped St. Peter Faber Parish to reach where it is today. On Sunday, 24th September 2023, the parish organized a small function to honor his visit. It started with the celebration of the Holy



### IMAGE 1

*Children Wave Palm Leaves During Mass Entrance at The Inauguration Event*

### IMAGE 2

*Back View of St. Peter Faber which bears Parish Offices and the Parish House.*

### IMAGE 3

*The Bishop Celebrating Mass at St. Peter Faber*

Eucharist during which Mr. Thomas Kilian received the Gold-Medaille of donation and a certificate of thanks for our major donor. We will never forget his memorable visit.

We also thank the Jesuit-Missions-Procure of Switzerland at that time, represented by Fr. Toni Kurmann SJ, and the Jesuit-Missions-Procure of North Belgium, represented by Fr. Ludvik van Heuke SJ. Special thanks also go to the Diocese of Augsburg, department of "World-Mission," represented by Mrs. Ingeborg Abt and Mr. Anton Stegmair. Without forgetting the Diocese of Augsburg and Church in Need, represented by Mr. Toni Zender, for their unwavering support. Thanks to Mr. Zender, who set aside some time to visit our two parishes during the "AMECEA" Conference, our faithful were very happy with his visit.



Also, our heartfelt gratitude goes to the Archdiocese of Cologne, represented by Mr. Nadim Amann and Mr. Anton Zender (of the CHURCH IN NEED). We also extend our appreciation to Mr. Amann, who was also here during the AMECEA Conference; he visited all our projects. The faithful community gives him many thanks. We would like to thank Fam. Johann and Rosa Hilger in a very special way, as well as Mr. Gaby Meder (Vitus' cousin sister) and her husband Albert from Germany for their generous donation.

To our generous local donors, Fam Amulungi, who generously gave sum towards the church's compound pavement, thank you so much! And to Mrs. Milulu, who gave generously towards the completion of the construction, Asanteri Sana! We thank all the individual donors who helped us through the big donor organizations. Thanks to them all. Our gratitude also goes to our faithful of the parishes St. Peter Faber Mabibo and St. John the Baptist Luhanga, who contributed 30% of the whole building cost, Asanteri Sana!



Special thank you to the Jesuits Eastern Africa Development Office, represented by Fr. Allan Ggita, SJ, and Mr. Andrea, SJ. They prepared all the applications in a very professional way, and so we got great help. Many thanks also to our financial office of the Jesuits Eastern Africa, represented by Fr. Fidelis Udahehuka, SJ, and Fr. Evarist Shigi, SJ, for helping in a very efficient and straightforward way.

*let my eyes take their sleep, but may my heart  
always keep watch for you. may your right hand  
bless your servants who love you. —peter canisius*

However, despite the achievements, St. Peter Faber Parish still faces challenges as it lacks good benches for the parishioners to sit on more comfortably. At the moment, the parish uses the old pews from the old temporary former outstation, which are in a bad condition, some of which are broken, shaky, and make so much noise—interrupting the prayer. We reach out to you, both locally and internationally, for support in order to acquire 156 benches for the parish. We look forward towards your help. Any amount, whether in cash or of any kind, will bring this parish fully to fruition. We are almost there!

May this church always be a holy place. A place of blessing, love, and peace, where people find our Lord Jesus Christ. Where they find rest in their daily problems, where they build the family of Christians, and where they begin to help a little bit to construct the kingdom of God here on earth

May God bless you abundantly and be with you.

Fr. Vitus Sedlmair SJ | Parish- Priest of the Parish St. Peter Faber Mabbo Dar es Salaam.

&

Br. Andrea Uduma, SJ | Monitoring and Evaluation Officer, Jesuit Development Office.

#### IMAGE

Front View of St. Peter Faber





# Our Gift Shop

We highly appreciate donations:  
They go a long way in helping maintain the projects  
we have initiated regionally that help a lot of people in need!



**Calendar**  
Useful information about the holidays, new seasons, religious festivals all in our exquisite 2024 Wall Calendar!"  
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# THE EXAMEN

Review your day in the presence of God

## WHAT IS THE EXAMEN

The prayer of the daily Examen originated in 1522 when St. Ignatius of Loyola began writing the Spiritual Exercises. St. Ignatius believed this method would help us develop discipline, ask for God's grace, and see how God works through us and among us daily.

St. Ignatius actually began thinking about this technique during a difficult yet pivotal time in his life. In 1521, the Spanish saint and nobleman had his leg shattered by a cannonball in the Battle of Pamplona. He never had a successful surgery yet still decided to begin his pilgrimage on horseback to Montserrat, Spain (with the intention of traveling to Jerusalem). He ended up living in a cave near Montserrat in a town called Manresa for almost a year. And it was there that he began writing the Spiritual Exercises.

It remains a powerful form of prayer event today and one that Pope Francis has encouraged.

"There is a good way of doing this, and today I would like to propose it to you: it consists of dedicating time, every evening, to a brief examination of conscience," he said in April 2023. "What happened inside of me today? That is the question. It means rereading the day with Jesus."

## HERE IT IS IN A NUTSHELL

### Ask God for light.

I want to look at my day with God's eyes, not merely my own.

### Give thanks.

The day I have just lived is a gift from God. Be grateful for it.

### Review the day.

I carefully look back on the day just completed, being guided by the Holy Spirit.

### Face your shortcomings.

I face up to what is wrong—in my life and in me.

### Look toward the day to come.

I ask where I need God in the day to come.

*"It's actually an attitude more than a method, a time set aside for thankful reflection on where God is in your everyday life."*





## About **Xavier House** in Kampala

**X**avier House is the name of the Jesuit Residence in the heart of Uganda's capital, Kampala. Jesuit presence in Uganda dates back to the 1930s, although it was sporadic until the first resident Jesuit in 1968. The early Jesuits stayed in various locations and were engaged in various apostolates in all corners of the country, but did not have an officially erected Jesuit community, until the construction and opening of the Xavier House in 1989. Since then, the residence has acted as a launch pad for the Jesuits engaged in various apostolates in Uganda. In the past few years, Xavier House has been closely associated with

Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS), serving as the office space and coordinating center for its activities in the country. With the generosity of close partners, especially US Midwest Province, a new, 11-room, more spacious Jesuit residence has been built on the same property, leaving the older house for the expansion of JRS activities. The new house currently accommodates five resident Jesuits, in addition to Jesuits and guests who come for brief and longer stays, as well as occasional retreatants. Currently, the Jesuits at Xavier House are engaged in pastoral ministry, giving retreats, teaching in major seminary and youth ministry, among others, all the for the greater glory of the Almighty.

*Fr Aloysius Lubega, SJ.*

## ABOUT THE JESUITS

The Society of Jesus was founded by St. Ignatius of Loyola in 1540 and is today the largest Religious Order of men in the Catholic Church. We serve in 112 nations on six continents and are organized in administrative regions called Provinces. The Eastern Africa Province consists of Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Ethiopia, Sudan and South Sudan. Though it was established in 1986, the earliest missions date back to the times of St. Ignatius as far as 1557 in Ethiopia.

## OUR WORKS IN EASTERN AFRICA

**Education:** Through our educational institutions we form well rounded and competent persons committed to a faith that does justice. We train men and women for others.

**Retreats:** For more than 470 years, Jesuit spirituality has led countless women and men to a greater intimacy with Jesus Christ and to a dedication to serve those most in need. We maintain retreat houses in Kenya and Ethiopia. In addition, we run mobile retreats in all countries of our Province.

**Parish Ministry:** We run 6 vibrant parishes with a variety of pastoral, formation and service programmes. All our parishes give emphasis to 'community' and have dynamic Small Christian Communities.

**Social Justice and Communication:** We aim to transform unjust structures and offer hope to the marginalised in society. We reach out especially to refugees, those affected or infected with HIV/AIDS, poverty and violence.

SUPPORT ANY OF OUR WORKS WITH A KIND DONATION

Account Details  
NCBA Bank Kenya PLC  
Mara-Ragati Road,  
Bank Code: 07000 | Swift Code: CBAFKENX

Name on Bank Account: Society of Jesus Kenya  
Bank ZIP/Postal Code: 00100  
US Dollar Account: 651 749 0029  
Euro Account: 651 749 0034  
Kenya Shillings Account: 651 749 0068  
Mpesa Number: 0713 387 252

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# Contacts:

Tanzania  
Matteo Ricci  
Jesuit Residence, Moshi  
(+255) 686 074 251  
miitotanzania@aorjesuits.org

Uganda  
Xavier House  
P.O. Box 7300  
Kampala, Uganda  
(+256) 414 510340  
vocationsug@aorjesuits.org

Ethiopia  
Notre Dame Jesuit Residence  
Gulele 02, House 607  
P.O. Box 30105  
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia  
(+251) 11 123 6650  
vocationsethiopia@aorjesuits.org

Republic of Sudan  
Ignatian Spiritual Centre  
P.O. Box 1629  
Khartoum, Republic of Sudan  
(+249) 85 341855

South Sudan  
St. Ignatius House  
Jeber Kher, Wau  
(+211) 923 768 174  
vocationsross@aorjesuits.org

## CONTACT US

### Address

Jesuits Development Office  
Loyola House  
P.O. Box 21399-00505  
Ngong Road, Nairobi.  
**Location:** St Joseph Kangemi  
Workshop, along Thiong'o Rd

### Contact

**P :** (+254) 713 387252  
(+254) 115 769798  
**E :** [info@aorjesuits.org](mailto:info@aorjesuits.org)  
[communications@aorjesuits.org](mailto:communications@aorjesuits.org)  
**W :** [www.easternafricajesuits.org](http://www.easternafricajesuits.org)



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