



Vol 10 | Issue 1 | August 2021

Shukran

Shukran
Swahili/Arabic
for Gratitude



Our donors, Champions of Hope

Through numerous collaborative partnerships, St. Joseph Technical Secondary School has gradually been able to respond to the needs of the community through the blended education that we offer... Page 3

A Grand Opening

At Ocer Champion Jesuit College the students are excited and looking forward to taking up residence in the beautiful and roomy facility... Page 6

Corona cannot stop us

For twenty-five years and counting, Radio Kwizera (RK) occupies an important and largely unique space relating media and development in North-western Tanzania and the Great lakes region of Africa... Page 12

Ignatius Loyola recovering from a cannonball that struck him during a battle on May 20, 1521, in Pamplona. It was during this period of convalescence that his conversion story began. The end product was the Society of Jesus!

Ignatius Soo

to see all things
new in Christ

Dear Friends,

In this issue, we present to you some selected apostolates across the Province, expressing their gratitude for the support and affection you have shown them in realising their goal of serving God's people better.



Here we are right in the heart of the Ignatian Year recalling 500 years since our Holy Founder, Ignatius Loyola - the soldier - was injured in battle by a cannonball in a battle at Pamplona, Spain, an injury that saw his conversion to following Christ more closely and which eventually culminated into the Society of Jesus. For us Jesuits, this is a year of seeing everything new in Christ, a year of our own conversion and reconciliation running from May 20th 2021 till July 31st 2022. It is equally a year when we Jesuits of Eastern Africa count our blessings while giving thanks to the Lord for all our friends, partners and collaborators who make our mission possible. Shukran!

Our sincere gratitude goes first to Xavier Network association that has accepted to support our Development Office on top of the already on-going partnership they have with us for the South Sudan frontier. For the latter, they have likewise helped us to put up a Programmes Desk ran by Ms. Caroline Charles Sanga, based in Rumbek mainly dedicated to South Sudan projects. Back here in Nairobi, the Development Office has a new team of dedicated staff: Ms. Damaris J. Kamanthe (Programmes Officer), Br Andrea P.A. Uduma, SJ (M&E Officer) and Raphael N. Obino (Communications).

In this issue, we present to you some selected apostolates across the Province, expressing their gratitude for the support and affection you have shown them in realising their goal of serving God's people better. St Joseph Technical Secondary School, Kangemi; Ocer Campion Jesuit College, Gulu; Loyola High School, Dar es Salaam; St Joseph the Worker Health Centre, Kangemi; Pedro Arrupe Community, Mwangaza; Loyola Centre for Media and Communications, Nairobi; St Charles Lwanga Parish, Muyeye-Malindi; Galilee Jesuit Retreat Centre, Debre Zeit; Loyola Secondary School, Wau; Radio Kwizera, Ngara; St Peter Claver Ecological and Computer Centre, Rumbek and Moshi Jesuit Community. We also invite you to join our Province in celebrating a bumper harvest of six new priests: four from Kenya, one from Uganda and one from South Sudan. These young vibrant and energetic men are now destined to labour in the various missions, which you have now become part of. Let us pray for them that they may find joy and consolation in their respective ministries.

Your continued support to these and other works spread across the Eastern Africa Province more so in these precarious times of the COVID-19 pandemic is a clear testimony of your understanding of the missionary dimension of the Church, constantly in need of support (Redemptoris Mission, # 81). Our most assured payback for this noble gesture is definitely the daily prayers we offer for you and your loved ones - both living and dead - whenever we celebrate the Eucharist.

Enjoy the reading!

Fr Allan Ggita, SJ.

Director, Development Office.

Our donors, Champions of Hope eradicating poverty in Kangemi slums

"Because of the conducive learning environment, we are registering a gradual improvement in the academic performance..."

St. Joseph Development Programmes, through St. Joseph Technical Secondary School (TSS) in Kangemi strives to provide an integral education that is aimed at promoting knowledge and basic skills for livelihood to the most vulnerable population in the community. This has been made possible thanks to the support of our generous benefactors. Through numerous collaborative partnerships,



The newly constructed hall and library

TSS has gradually been able to respond to the needs of the community through the blended education that we offer.

Through the support from the Italian Bishops Conference (CEI), we have been able to accomplish the construction of an ultra-modern hall and the school library for St. Joseph Technical Secondary School. There has been gradual improvement in performance over the past three years. In the year 2020/2021, our Form Four candidates registered a mean score of 6.33 in their national examination up from 5.0 in 2019 and way better than 2018 where no student directly qualified for university entrance. Seven out of



Students having a motivational talk in the new hall



Construction of the new ultra-modern hall and library facility

16 students qualified for direct admission to the university, while the rest will join tertiary institutions. Our library is now stocked with curriculum-relevant text books and revision materials courtesy of donors and well-wishers such as CEI, the Loyola Foundation, Desai Memorial Foundation, Jesuit mission offices and friends of St Joseph. Together we have made strides and yet we wish to keep moving with our beneficiaries in Kangemi.

The government of Hungary through The Hungary Helps Programme is supporting us with a facility to expand our service through skills training. Construction of the new building has commenced and is expected to be completed by the end of the year. Upon completion, the building will host vocational skills classrooms/workshops for our technical programmes.

It is through partnership and collaboration that we have been able to serve the needy; children, the youth, men and women in Kangemi slum through the provision of quality reading and learning materials thus a cure to illiteracy. It is clear that we have managed to touch the lives of many beneficiaries because of the support received from our friends who ensure that we reach out to the needy. As one beneficiary put it, "we have made it because we were assured of food, books and most important of all love. You care for us as though we were your biological children, we felt loved and appreciated even though we were constantly in need."

We believe in the right of everyone to attain a meaningful education for a better future. Our hope is that through our holistic formation, our pupils and students will grow into men and women for others, to proclaim faith that does justice. We wholeheartedly acknowledge and continue to pray for all our generous friends and collaborators whose sacrifices support us in our mission.

Fr Ponsiano Ngondwe, SJ.
Outgoing Director, Devt. Programmes, Kangemi Parish.
Photos: Ponsiano Ngondwe, SJ



L-R: Newly ordained Frs. Dominic Mutuku Musyoki SJ, Oscar Anganga Nduri SJ, Peter Linus Omondi SJ, Benedict Omondi Odhiambo SJ giving a blessing to the Provincial Superior of Jesuits Eastern Africa Province, Fr Kizito Kiyimba, SJ in Mwangaza Retreat House gardens. The ordination took place on July 31st 2021 (Feast of St Ignatius Loyola, founder of the Jesuits) and was presided over by His Excellency Archbishop Hubertus Matheus Maria Van Megan- Apostolic Nuncio, Kenya.

Photos: Raphael Obino



In Kenya,



The invocation of the ancestors in faith to intercede for these, our chosen men



This is the true Gospel - service in humility, nothing else!

L-R: Frs Patrick C. Taban SJ and Charles Jaryekonga SJ all smiles after their ordination on August 6th 2021 (Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord) in a very colourful celebration held at Ocer Campion Jesuit College by His Grace John Baptist Odoma, Archbishop of Gulu Archdiocese.

Photos: Andrea Uduma, SJ.



In Uganda,



Just Ordained - Frs Charles and Patrick



Invocation of the saints to intercede for them in their priestly ministry

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On-going construction work of the Girls' Dormitory at Loyola High School, Dar es Salaam. We remain grateful to our esteemed donors, ASHA/USAID for supporting this noble cause. The dormitory upon completion will enable many girls acquire sustainable education and other great opportunities. Thank you very much.

Photos: Fr Martin Waweru, SJ



My experience delivering at St. Joseph the Worker Dispensary

I am Frida Makaka, aged 25 years. This being my first child, I always wished to deliver it at this facility, since it is here that I have attended my Antenatal clinics, and the nurses journeyed with me very nicely, and made me enjoy. I like the cleanliness of this facility, and the kindness of the staff.



Lady Frida Akaka in the Awarid

I came here today at around 11.30am, and I was welcomed very well, with a lot of care and love. Immediately I was examined by the nurse, and told I was in labour, about to give birth. He invited another nurse, and the process was started immediately. Everything went on very well, I thank God who blessed me with a baby boy.

After delivery I was cleaned very gently without any harassment, I was given some warm tea, and accompanied to the bathroom to take a hot shower. Soon after, I was served with very delicious lunch, which I enjoyed.

I thank God for the good services offered to me, and to many others by this facility. May He continue to bless the staff and the facility, and make it grow to serve even in many other areas. May you always have such loving and caring staff, who serve people with very good heart. God bless you all.

Frida Akaka
Photo: Sr. Magdaline Mwaura.



My experience as a patient in St. Joseph the Worker Catholic Dispensary Maternity Unit

I arrived in the health facility in labor, at around 7.00 am in the morning. I was welcomed very well by friendly and gentle staff, very humane, who treated me with a lot of respect, and made me feel comfortable. She informed me that the baby was already tired, and I needed an immediate operation to save the baby. She called on the doctors, who arrived shortly after. I had experienced two caesarean sections before with my first and second baby. This was a third one. Comparing this with the other two hospitals, I feel this was the best. Very clean and tidy, one does not fear to be infected with other ailments.

I was operated and I thank God the operation took a short time, and was safe. The doctors were also very friendly and full of humor and professionalism. The food well cooked, delicious and balanced diet. The ward is very clean and neat, no smell at all.

I would suggest that this hospital grow into a big hospital, admitting not only maternity mothers but also other patients, since we do not have many hospitals in the community around.

I will keep telling others about the good services offered at St. Joseph The Worker Catholic Dispensary. I will refer my friends here.

Thank you, and God bless this facility.



Lady Veroniah Kemunto in the ward after the surgery

Veroniah Kemunto
Photo: Sr. Magdaline Mwaura.



Grand Opening of the new girls' dormitory at Ocer Campion Jesuit College

"We could not build the school unless we got land," said Fr. Tony as he explained the process of acquiring the 98.5 acres of land freely given by the Abononi family.

On 4th June 2021, Ocer held a Grand Opening of its new girls' dormitory. The 300 bed project was made possible by USAID/ASHA through the generosity of the American people. The opening was attended by the school faculty, the Jesuit community, district education officers, alumni, students and a few community members while observing the safety guidelines due to the disturbing COVID-19 pandemic.

Rev. Sr. Rose Mary Nyirumbe, from the Sacred Heart Sisters and an internationally acclaimed girl child activist officiated in cutting the ribbon and unveiling of the plaque signifying the official opening of the dormitory. The new double storey dormitory has tutor and volunteer apartments as well as study common rooms on both floors. This new project is massively contributing to girl child education.



Architecture should speak of its time and place, but yearn for timelessness

"The construction of this dormitory is addressing the need of privacy for the girl child," said Rev. Sr. Rose Mary Nyirumbe. She explained that in this place, the girls will have space and opportunity to hold private discussions which are central to their well-being, education and growth. Rev. Sr. Nyirumbe further applauded the Jesuits for the great contribution in addressing the need for education. "Let us thank God for the Jesuits for the great heart and love they have in addressing the need of education and especially for the girl child in Northern Uganda," she added.



Our partners USAID had to be recognized. Thank you for supporting us

While addressing the people, the Founding Director, Fr. Tony Wach SJ commended the family and clan that gave the land upon which sits Ocer Campion Jesuit College. "We could not build the school unless we got land," said Fr. Tony as he explained the process of acquiring the 98.5 acres of land freely given by the Abononi family. In appreciation for their great contribution, the dormitory has been named after the family - Abononi.

The students are excited and looking forward to taking up residence in the beautiful and roomy facility. Some of the students had already come in to book space. However, they are to wait a little longer as the schools have been closed again due to the second wave of fast-spreading COVID-19.

The management and entire Ocer Campion Jesuit College community and Eastern Africa Jesuit Province profoundly appreciates the support, generosity and great partnership of USAID/ASHA who have made this project a reality.

Idah Leah Nabunnya
Communications Officer, Ocer Campion College, Gulu
Photos: Leah Nabunnya



LCMC - Promoting character formation of young people through media

Loyola Centre for Media and Communications (LCMC) is an apostolate of the Society of Jesus (Jesuits). Our goal is promoting character formation of young people through media.

Using audio and audio-visuals, LCMC's vision is to form creative and critical young minds able to integrate with diverse contexts. The mission is, to produce an open resource and offer formative training to parents, guardians, and instructors all



LCMC Collaborators Group Photo

of whom are directly involved in the holistic development of children.

As LCMC, we run two programs that are motivated, oriented and defined by Christian Values whose end goal is spiritual development:

1. Open Resource Audio in which we produce alternative value-based content that promotes character formation among young people.
2. Media Lab in which we promote Social Justice for Young People, train children on Sustainable Development Goals and offer Online and Offline Learning in Spirituality and Critical Thinking.



LCMC Staff and Participants of the Social Justice Project in Barsaloi-Samburu after a Successful Training and Mentorship Session



Fr. Allan Cgita SJ, engaging young people from Don Bosco Catholic Church, Huruma on the pillar of Freedom and Responsibility

In addition, Media Lab offers a creative space in which parents, guardians, instructors, and teens engage in media technology through digital literacy training whose goal is to spur imagination, critical thinking, and love for God in them.

Our extended gratitude to our collaborators; Jesuits of Eastern Africa province (AOR), Kenya Confer-



Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Kitchen Garden Project at Malia Children's Home in Machakos

ence of Catholic Bishops (KCCB), Association of Sisterhoods of Kenya (AOSK), Religious Superior of Kenya Men (RSK), Jesuit Hakimani Centre (JHC), Wanawake Kwa Wanawake (WKW), St. Joseph The Worker Parish Kangemi and Reuben Center

Paschal Adigolo Norbert
Branding and Promotions Officer, LCMC – Nairobi.
Photos: LCMC Photography Dept.



In Malindi "We are very Grateful. May God bless you Always"

Malindi is the largest urban center in Kilifi county. An old historic town that is located at the mouth of the Sabaki River along the Indian Ocean coast of Kenya. Tourism is the major industry in Malindi, more popular among Italian tourists. There, lies tropical beaches dotted with hotels and resorts, marine national parks and forests reserves that harbors wild animals including the famous Arabuko elephants. It is a place of stunning natural beauty full of Old traditional cultures and hospitable local people. Having developed as part of the emerging Swahili civilization, the area is full of Bantu speaking people, Swahili Arabs, Italians and a couple of people from other parts of the nations and the world.

It is with no doubt you'll find at least two or three mango trees and coconut trees in every homestead. However, Malindi has the highest price of agro produce in coastal region which can be attributed to Malindi being a popular tourist destination. The Kadongoleni farm, an agricultural development project of the Muyeye Catholic Parish, is famous for its nutritious chicken eggs. The farm has 182 chicken (layers), 70 rabbits, 11 quails, 4 doves, 2 turkeys and a total of 23 traditional chickens. Another space of land has been left for tilling where crops such as, passion fruit, kora (mabenda) and tomatoes are being cultivated. Few coconut trees and mango trees are also growing. Three youths from Muyeye parish have dedicated their full time to take care of the farm. The project is meant to impact agricultural and financial management skills to the youths around that area.

One of the challenges is that the youths have not been that recep-



The Kadongoleni farm chicken project.

by HIV/ AIDS. The school has a total population of 90 pupils with 3 teachers. The teachers are full time volunteers from the local community with a passion for serving Christ and a passion of helping the pupils. One of the challenges they face is the lack of proper structure to remunerate them, unavailability of sufficient education resources, societal challenges and family problems that exist in the society. Also, the kids pay a school fee of sh. 500 as facilitation fee to allow them access lunch whenever they come to school.

Future plans are underway to re - establish the institution to acquire more land, enroll more students, access the required needed educational utilities and resources and also to offer medical support to the affected pupils and parents if need be. With a proper support structure in terms of funding, I believe this dream can achieved.

The newly constructed community house is beautiful. It is very close to the beach, a 15 minutes' walk surrounded by a very calm and beautiful environment. At night you can clearly hear the sounds of the ocean's waves splashing against the ocean rocks. The hosts are very hospitable. The two dogs are very playful and they are also in charge of security. This is one of the best facilities have been to.

With the completion of the new church scheduled to be opened soon, the parish has greatly developed having recently acquired new benches and completed their new brick perimeter wall around the church. The newly built tippy taps have aided in compartmenting the spread of covid - 19. Currently the landscaping works are ongoing as construction of a commercial building outside the church is in its final stages. The commercial spaces will be opened soon for the



The newly Malindi people's park with other social amenities including a football field, kids corner and great view looking the Indian ocean.

tive to the project and that, the few that were part of the project gave up after sometime. This problem was due to lack of motivation and the balance between rewards that can enable them to survive economically. Most of the young people come from poor backgrounds and they require immediate and daily source of income for survival. The chicken lay up to 130 eggs in a day, which translates to at least four trays in a day. A crate of eggs retails for sh. 300. This if given more empowerment is a lucrative business. With the adoption of new innovative techniques to engage and sensitize the masses mostly the youth, this can be a sustainable venture in Malindi.

St Vincent De Paul nursery school charity project was established by St Charles Lwanga parish in collaboration with other several donors. The project was started to enable small children between the age of 4-8 years to access education opportunities. Most of these kids come from poverty-stricken families and families where parents have suffered from HIV/ AIDS. Some of the kids are also infected



The kadongoleni Farm where passion fruits, coconut trees and kola plants are grown



Pupils at St Vincent De Paul nursery school enjoying an english lesson

public to rent at a small fee so that it can allow the parish to fund some of its other projects.

The Compound also houses the St Vincent de Paul nursery school. The old store was converted to be the development and administration office although plans are underway to construct a new administration block. Liturgical activities are running smoothly. The new environment has enabled the parishioners to carry out their activities efficiently. To sum it up, the beautiful greenhouse on the church, where kora has been planted compound is also very beautiful.

All this has been made possible through enormous support from all the donors and partners including the reliable corporation between the parish and the local people of Muye, Malindi. "Che Dio ti benedica sempre"

Raphael Obino
Communication Coordinator, Jesuit Eastern Africa / Devt. Office
Photos: Raphael Obino



Going Green Still! Care for our common home at Mwangaza

Pedro Arrupe Community (PAC) is a Jesuit residence located in the Karen area, about 22 Km from Nairobi city - Kenya. The residence is a home for elderly Jesuits and some few others who are engaged in other ministries: Ignatian retreats and leadership training at the Mwangaza Spiritual Centre, pastoral services to the surrounding religious communities and Parishes, teaching and studies.

Motivated by the Universal Apostolic Priorities (UAPs), the community came up with an initiative of a solar photovoltaic installation project to generate cleaner energy for her daily lighting and heating needs. The initiative was also a response to the high monthly electricity bills from the national grid, which is also associated with



Engineers finalizing the installation of the solar power system

frequent and untimely outages.

The project is in its second phase, and it has become a reality through the support of many partners and friends. At present, the project can generate slightly over 60% of the power needed by the community. When the 2nd phase of the project is completed, it is estimated that on sunny days, PAC will draw over 90% of its power from the project. The direct beneficiaries of this project are 20 full time residents at PAC and occasional visitors who come for short stay. The beneficiaries are very much delighted to have reliable access to power. We are now able to work and live without unnecessary power interruption. To this end we very much thank our partners and friends for supporting us thus far; "we are thrilled to have your support. Through your donation we are gradually accomplishing our 'going green' goal. You truly make the difference for us, and we are extremely grateful!"



A technician completing the installation of solar photovoltaic plates

Fr Kyara Corbinian, SJ.
Superior Pedro Arrupe Jesuit Community, Mwangaza
Photos: Kyara Corbinian, SJ.



The frontier requires the whole person - my experience in Wau, South Sudan

The Constitutions of the Society of Jesus requires scholastics to “devote themselves to learning which they acquire with a pure intention of serving God and which in a certain way requires the whole person (Cons 340)”. Well, from my two-year regency in South Sudan, I would succinctly say that the frontiers as well demand a man who will embrace this number in Part Four of the Constitutions.

I arrived in South Sudan on July 16, 2019, after my dedicating my whole self to studies in Harare, Zimbabwe. So much had been said about South Sudan and so it was my time to test these waters. I was assigned to teach senior two, Christian Religious Education (CRE). I integrated well in the school since it was a familiar territory having been in a school before. I also managed to connect well among the local people and learnt some little



It was always great to visit villages and shared a traditional meal with the villagers in South Sudan

Balanda and Arabic languages. I was assigned to be in charge of the school choir in which I took the responsibility with all my heart. Immediately, I started preparing for St. Ignatius day, a much-awaited day by the students and even parents and so we had to prepare well. Other responsibilities entrusted to me in the school were; patron of the environmental club, coordinator of the Agricultural club that worked in collaboration with an NGO called Malteser. As a personal initiative, I taught Kiswahili to interested students in the Swahili club and many others. In the community I was charged with the garden and correspondence where I could update the province weekly about our work here in Wau. I can confess that at the beginning it was not easy because the internet was a very big letdown.

For me, regency is a moment of great freedom, yet amounted with a great sense of responsibility and maturity. Regency is a moment where one has to gauge himself in his own growth and ability to integrate in different environment, social and emotional intelligence. In my opinion, regency does not only test maturity but also stability of a regent in terms of faith amidst challenging and unpleasant situations. I have enjoyed my regency because I have been able to learn about my strengths and weaknesses. Yes, I am fulfilled that I have been able to help the young people with both academic, moral and spiritual knowledge as they strive to transform themselves and their country at large. My determination in any school henceforth is to instill discipline which is paramount for one to succeed in academics. My assumption is that nowhere in the world will an employer hire a morally disoriented person.

As a regent, there are other duties that I could be assigned for instance going to collect charcoal in the village. Charcoal is the main source of energy for cooking in the school, when it ran out, I had to drive in a rebel infested area in order to find charcoal for the school and the Jesuit community. Certainly, I had to encounter armed groups in the bush though they were not aggressive to us but personally I feared at some instances. This encounters taught me resiliency and being strong hearted. I served as a minister of the Jesuit community but assumed similar responsibilities for the school. Importantly, I came to appreciate the value of the spiritual exercises of St. Ignatius of Loyola. I employed the graces at work here in the apostolate, being in solidarity with those who are suffering and the poor hence finding God in all things.

As a person, I have learnt in a practical sense what is to be a contemplative in action. However, I cannot forget that the daily examination of



Interaction with local community members in Wau local market

conscience and the daily Eucharistic celebration are a source of strength in my work as a regent. Spiritual direction was also a source of energy during my regency despite my busy schedule. Here in the Diocese of Wau, the religious have a practice of organizing for a monthly recollection where all religious gather. Communities are charged with leading these recollections in turns and so this too was another opportunity for me to quench my spiritual thirst. I also interacted with other religious communities where we shared our experiences. On Sundays, I took some time to join the faithful for Mass either at the Cathedral here in Wau or in other parishes and that also gave me the chance to know the local church and the Christians. Such avenues opened my mind as a scholastic upon realizing that even as missionaries, we need not live in isolation but socialize as faithful of one universal Catholic Church. In Masses that I attended, I witnessed how Christians are committed to their faith, striving to find God in their lives. Even though the element of revenge is very common among the people here because they can change like a chameleon at any time and they can easily gang against you if you don't understand their nature.

Community life has been the most wonderful place because I felt much at home due to its simplicity. We eat simple food which is affordable in the area. It is the only community in our province where you feel in touch with nature as we have animals in the compound like goats, cuts, pigs, vultures, pigeons and one monkey which is within our forest. We do provide water for our animals both domestic and wild ones. In this case I have learnt that community is made alive by the community members themselves, a community can be dead if the members decide to make it so. I encourage that such good practices be cherished in all our commu-



Loyola secondary school Agricultural club in collaboration with Maltaser organization

nities in different parts of our Province. Establishment of small projects like rearing of local chickens and goats makes the community self-reliant in providing food to supplement the community menu.

Who can I say I am after seven years in the Society of Jesus? First, apostolic availability through philosophical studies where I had to challenge myself with questions of life and learn how to question certain things in life and use reason to make logical and sound arguments. Secondly regency has strengthened my apostolic zeal in spiritual matters and also it has taught me to live in faith and hope amidst terror and uncertainties.

Sajilo Mark Julius, SJ.
Former Regent, Loyola Secondary School, Wau
Photos: Sajilo Julius.



God laboring in Galilee through multiple donors

"Starting this project with limited funds was an act of faith in the Divine Providence. A lot of hard work, both from the Development Office in Nairobi and the Jesuit community in Addis Ababa, is being done to raise the necessary funds".

Our loving God has constantly continued to labour at Galilee Centre, the retreat house in Debre Zeit, Ethiopia, through various donors who have supported both the retreat programmes and the new building that is currently under construction.

Missio-Aachen together with Aid to the Church in Need offered us a lump sum grant that went to the retreat programmes of priests, religious and the weekend retreats of seminarians, novices and juniors for 2021. This subsidy has benefited 230 priests, religious and lay persons who came for their retreat in the months of January through June.

Benefactors are making possible the construction of a block of twelve rooms for the retreatants. Starting this project with limited funds was an act of faith in the Divine Providence. A lot of hard work, both from the Development Office in Nairobi and the Jesuit community in Addis Ababa, is being done to raise the necessary funds.



Preparing form work for the Columns of First Floor.



Galilee Jesuit Retreat Centre, Debre Zeit, Construction in progress.

We are grateful to Mission Fund of Malta, the Jesuit Mission of Nürnberg, the Irish Jesuit International, and the Maltese Jesuits for their generosity shown towards these amazing projects. We extend further heartfelt gratitude to another benefactor in Malta and some religious communities here in Ethiopia for their donations. These benefactors are a concrete sign that God is blessing the mission of Galilee Centre through his divine providence.

Fr. Joseph Pullicino SJ.
Director, Galilee Jesuit Retreat Centre, Debre Zeit.
Photos: Adika Bernard, SJ.



Corona cannot stop us – Radio Kwizera still walking miles with the support of donors and partners

"Radio Kwizera cannot afford to be ungrateful to all partners and donors supporting the people of Northwestern Tanzania. As a Jesuit apostolate, the Radio shall continue to proclaim the mission of Christ to the world"

Radio Kwizera is one of the popular and most listened to media platforms followed by both rural and urban communities in Northwestern Tanzania. The radio can also be tuned to from eastern parts of Rwanda, Burundi, and DR Congo. According to Radio audience survey conducted by UNESCO in 2018 in the Radio's coverage area, 10.3 million people in Northwestern Tanzania listen to Radio Kwizera let alone those from parts of Rwanda, Burundi, DR Congo, and southern Uganda. With those parts of the mentioned countries added, an estimate of about 25 million people listen to Radio Kwizera including those accessing it online.



Newly Renovated Studio of Radio Kwizera in Kasulu in Kigoma. Photo by Marco – RK Reporter Kigoma town

In 2019, according to a survey conducted by Pan African Research Institute in the refugee camps in Northwestern Tanzania (Kigoma region in particular), where 264,475 refugees are still residing, Radio Kwizera listenership was at 78% compared to other community Radios in the region. This is mainly because the Radio is credited with facilitating quick, credible information compared to other media platforms in the region.

Thus, for twenty-five years and counting, Radio Kwizera (RK) occupies an important and largely unique space relating media and development in Northwestern Tanzania and the Great lakes region of Africa. The Radio is a manifestation of the Jesuit mission which among other objectives is to accompany those struggling against systemic oppression, facilitating the removal of conditions of vulnerability, breaking cycles of poverty and undoing the shackles of disenfranchisement among the marginal communities.

Radio Kwizera applies several approaches to drive its objectives. It uses applied search, research, public education, and community outreach, and conducts community forums and the transmission of local, national, regional, and international news, within which it has created and aired people centered/packaged information. All the interventions are geared to promoting peace, human rights, rule of law, sustainable livelihoods, tolerance, community cohesion, inclusive governance, resettlement of refugees, and security in the



Newly Renovated Radio Kwizera Studio in Kasulu Town in Kigoma – Photo by Angelo Munduni Dema, SJ



RK New Studio in Mwanza at St. Francis Parish at Nyakahoja, Mwanza

The above could not be achieved if not for support of various donors and partners who continue to work with Radio Kwizera. For example, 2020 and 2021:

- Stan van Afrika from the Netherlands through CAMECO (Catholic Media Communications – Africa Desk in Germany) – supported Radio Kwizera with money used for crafting five-year strategic plan, which is expected to be launched soon in 2021
- UNICEF supported educational radio broadcasting that targeted 11,639 refugee School children in Kigoma Region in Northwestern Tanzania. Radio Kwizera broadcasted a number of lessons in French, Swahili, English, and Kirundi. The lessons were shaped to accommodate the Congolese and Burundian curriculum respectively. For the Congolese curriculum, Classes 5, 6, 7 were targeted and for the Burundian curriculum, classes 7, 8, 9 were targeted.
- Likewise 21,630 refugee schoolchildren were reached out with COVID-19 Relief.
- In 2021, the educational broadcasting was aired between March – June with the support of International Rescue Committee – with “Education Cannot Wait Project from UNHCR and Education Working Group from the Refugee camps in Kigoma in Northwestern Tanzania.
- DW Akademie – is supporting a project on an access to information for refugees and Tanzanians in Northwestern Tanzania. About 3000 refugees have been supported directly and over 50,000 refugees indirectly. The radio programming for this project covers issues such as refugees and sustainable use of environment, gender issues and culture, nutrition, security, peace and reconciliation, formal and informal education, and so forth. DW Akademie plans to support this project again by September 2021 – December 2021, and then March 2022 to Dec. 2022.
- The Jesuit Funds – FACSJ is currently being used for studio/ infrastructural development at Radio Kwizera.
- Misesa Cara – funds helped to promote Corona Messaging and behavioral communication on better practices for preventive and curative healthcare behavior, and especially disease outbreak.



Ms Zawadi Bashemela (RK Assistant Marketing Officer and Journalist) and Samuel Lucas – RK Journalist in Mwanza Studio

larger continuum of communication development within the Great Lakes region. Evidence suggests RK’s ability cuts across different cultures present in the region.

The Radio runs its operations where poverty is rife and gives hope to many people whose potential has been deflated by lack of basic needs and absence of relevant resources and those who reside in the margins and are consistently struggling to reclaim their dignity. This functional relevance resonates with the Universal Apostolic Preferences, underpinning the invitation to the Society of Jesus to walk with the poor, the outcasts of the world and those whose dignity has been violated, likely to be or downtrodden in a mission of reconciliation and justice.

Currently, Radio Kwizera is also securing some funding from UNICEF for promoting good parenting among refugees and locals in Northwestern Tanzania. The hash tag for the project is “Hondo Hondo” - good parents empower their children. The hashtag is taken from Hornbill that jealously cares for its young and ensures that the young ones are well protected. The project is running between July and December 2021. The project targets 150,000 parents directly and 850,000 indirectly.

Radio Kwizera cannot afford to be ungrateful to all partners and donors supporting the people of Northwestern Tanzania. As a Jesuit apostolate, the Radio shall continue to proclaim the mission of Christ to the world through social communications and marketing.

Fr. Angelo D. Munduni, SJ
 Director, Radio Kwizera, Ngara.
 Photo: Angelo Munduni, SJ.



“Walking with the Vulnerable and Empowering Youth” - Learn with Experts in Construction, Water Sanitation, Solar and Computers

Gift of hope to the vulnerable and youth in Rumbek, Lakes State, South Sudan. As COVID-19 pandemic continues to challenge our being, at St. Peter Claver Computer and Ecological Training Centre we never gave up. Each time we hear of a new strain of COVID-19, we still hope for a better present and future for our students, our families, our benefactors, and our leaders. The gift of hope gives us the strength to walk with the vulnerable and empower the youth. We generously support each other in each step of our story. We are now closer to each other than it was before. We care more for each other than before.

Gift of knowledge. “The mind of the intelligent gains knowledge and the ear of the wise seeks knowledge” (Proverbs. 18:15). Lakes State has a lot of young people being killed in inter-communal fighting. No single day passes without hearing the sound of a gun. No single day passes without young men being wounded or killed. December 2020 two students were jailed and three never came back for second semester in January 2021 because of inter-communal revenge. It is traumatizing to live in this environment. In spite of this, St. Peter Claver continues to walk with the vulnerable and youth intellectually and spiritually. The centre has become a new source of livelihood knowledge. The students are becoming wiser as they continue to realize that they are being wrongly used in inter-communal fights.



Students at the Computer Centre, Rumbek, South Sudan.

Gift of Conversion. The Society of Jesus is celebrating 500 years of conversion of St. Ignatius of Loyola. A young Ignatius loved fighting and did all kinds of things a young person can do. But when a cannonball shattered his leg, his life changed. I believe the values we have instilled in our 2020/2021 graduates is a point of conversion. The values learned will continue to transform their lives, their families and volatile Lakes State.

St. Peter Claver Ecological Training Centre



Student Aru explaining to the Provincial the intricacies of solar power system at Ecological Training Centre, Rumbek, South Sudan.

St. Peter Claver continues to walk with the vulnerable and youth intellectually and spiritually.



Plumbing practical at Loreto School, Rumbek, South Sudan.

(SPCECC) 12th Graduation. Great joy! four students graduated in Basic Solar and Electricity and 15 students in Basic Solar Water Pumps Installation and Maintenance; eight students in Basic Construction, Water and Sanitation and 11 students in Basic Plumbing; and 10 students in Basic Computer Software Installation and Hardware Maintenance. Thanks to BBM, eRKO, DKA, Xavier Network, Diocese of Rumbek and AOR Province for making all this possible during these difficult times of COVID-19.

Fr. Wanyonyi Eric Simiyu, S.J.
Outgoing Director, SPECC Rumbek
Photos: Wanyonyi Eric, SJ.



Moshi Jesuits House: Looking back with gratitude and into the future with hope

October 28, 2020 will remain freshly etched in our minds as the day we officially re-occupied the Jesuit house in Moshi, Kilimanjaro region of Tanzania. This house sitting at the heart of the Moshi town had been closed for about eight years. On this particular date, I arrived with Mr. Peter Linus Leba who was to be my first collaborator laboring as a gardener and a cook. Surprisingly, the excitement of reopening the house was short-lived. The house looked hostile especially to us who used to know how it was back then. Dilapidated it was looking at the roof tops, through the walls down to the floors, one could easily tell that the house had been



Jesuit house in Moshi, Kilimanjaro

deserted for several years. As if that is not enough, plumbing systems had collapsed, a bushy garden with the entire environ totally unreceptive.

Fast forward and now the Jesuit House in Moshi is a place to be, welcoming and serene. This short span development has been enabled through the gener-



Jesuit house in Moshi, Kilimanjaro



A quite and serene backyard at the community house

osity of friends, companions, family members and organizations. We have not only been renovating the house but also restructuring it to make it more comfortable. Dodoma based St. Ignatius Pre & Primary School, Airport Parish and her individual friends open-handedly supported the first phase of the renovation.

Inyasi House Community and Huduma Hostel both from Dar es Salaam alongside friends of Fr. Joe Kiarie SJ in Mwanza and from my family members donated funds to actualize the second phase. Currently, we have entered the third phase and this has been achieved through support of the Provincial of the Eastern Africa Jesuit Province and the Irish Jesuit Mission.

Presently, we are two Jesuits in the Community, Fr. Joseph Kiarie, SJ and I and one collaborator, Mr. Peter Leba. As we look back with gratitude, we accept the past without regret, live the present with confidence and face the future with hope. We continue to thank God for all our benefactors and the Jesuit Novitiate community in Arusha for their support. May God shower on everyone abundant heavenly blessings.

Fr Jerome Manyahi, SJ.
Superior, Moshi Jesuit Community
Photos: Jerome Manyahi, SJ



The Ignatian Magis in Wau

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With the economy still struggling to be on its feet and peace far from being fully realized, the level of economic productivity has remained dismal in South Sudan. We continue to strive for the Ignatian Magis by emptying ourselves for the greater good here in Wau. Through your generous donations, we have been able to put



Students enjoying computer lessons in the new computer Lab with the library



Students writing their mid-term exams at Loyola Secondary School, Wau

up a Multipurpose Hall (MPH), which will sit up to 650 people when completed. At the moment, the contractors are busy doing the final touches on this much-awaited MPH. We have a feeding program in which we provide breakfast and lunch to our needy students. We plan and perform our work understanding that you are there always for us, willingly supporting us anytime, and all the time. Thank you for your donations, which make so much difference in our school year after year.

Jean Baptiste Musitwa, SJ.
Principal | Loyola Secondary School, Wau
Photos: Jean Musitwa, SJ.



Celebrate
Ignatius 500
500 years after the cannonball struck..

The Year opened on May 20th, the 500th anniversary when Ignatius the soldier was injured by a cannonball in the Battle of Pamplona. The Year will conclude on July 31, 2022, the feast day of St. Ignatius. The peak of the celebration will fall on March 12, 2022, the 400th anniversary of the canonization of St. Ignatius and St. Francis Xavier.

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 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 way back in 1557 in Ethiopia.

Our works in Eastern Africa include:

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.

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