

# East Africa District Newsletter

# DRAWN BY MYSTERY, DESTINED FOR LIFE.

Edition 128 Feb 27, 2017

### ---- "WHAT'S PAST IS PROLOGUE..." -----

Then let me see with your eye, Lord, the web of words and deeds converging in this moment, connecting now with all that's been, meshing this moment with all I've known,

the good, the bad, the indifferent, the remembered and forgotten...

Help me see how every strand of my existence has been woven into whole cloth under your protective, watchful gaze:

how all that I have known (or not) has played a part in making this the day that you have made...

And then give me hope, sweet Lord, that the present, now at hand, is already knit as one



with all that is to come with all that's left to be...

And mindful of the moment, let me find my hope in you who see, who clearly see

just what I miss:
how the past is ever leading me,
binding me to you
in ways I cannot understand
until looking back, in grace,
I see your fingerprints
on all that I have known...

And as you've brought me safe thus far, so lead me safely home: for this I pray, I hope and trust is all your will and way for me...

Amen.







# PERPETUAL VOWS OF BR SIMON PETER ODONGO



Br Simon Odongo pronouncing his vows in the presence of Br Michael de Klerk

After a an extensive period of discernment, Br Simon Peter Odongo made his perpetual vows as a Christian Brother on 25<sup>th</sup> February 2017 in his home Parish of Uradi. Gathered at St Lawrence Parish in Uradi were over 300 people amongst whom were his family members, Christian Brothers, Parishioners and friends.

His journey of vocation to religious life began years back when he was a youth as was recounted by some priests who concelebrated the Eucharist. Odongo and these priests were members of the vocation group in the parish and were altar servers. The priests recalled with gratitude the various experiences that led Odongo and themselves to the lives they have embraced.

Our Province Leader, Br Michael de Klerk received the vows on behalf of the Congregation and the Church. The day will most surely remain in our hearts as one filled with joy and gratitude to God for the gift of Br Odongo to our Congregation. We wish him joy and peace as he continues in this journey of faith.

Br George Massay



Chapter 2014



#### - EDMUND RICE CAMP NAIROBI - FULL DAY CAMP -

As an outcome of a community engagement exercise by the leaders of Edmund Rice Camp Nairobi, we were able to identify schools that will benefit from being in partnership with Edmund Rice Camps. As a result, about seventy-five children and forty-seven leaders attended our camp at Regina Pacis this past Saturday, a camp that was successful in every way.



The camp started with one big circle game and later divided into two small circles with plenty of new games that had been learnt during the previous leaders' training day. The rotational game activities went well too and there was lots of fun, joy, energy and laughter. The afternoon session was based on one of the 'Pillars and Features' of Edmund Rice Ministries East Africa (ERMEA): 'Education to Empower'. Skits and poems were presented by the groups that addressed the importance of education.

# Sammy Muga



Chapter 2014



#### — FROM ERAN DESK —

The year 2017 has begun with a lot of zeal in the Edmund Rice Advocacy Network (ERAN) with the re-appointment of Mr Johnstone Shisanya as Programs Coordinator.



At the beginning of February, ERAN facilitated two days youth training on child protection and on running of camps. The target group were volunteers who had finished their high schools and have the desire to give back to the community within Embulbul. A total of 28 youths were trained and most of them will be involved in the upcoming camps for children and youth.

On  $22^{\rm nd}$  –  $24^{\rm th}$  February there was a child rights training in Oloolua Ward in Kajiado North Sub-County. A total of 48 participants attended the training, the majority being mothers and young women who are seeking parenting skills. Only four men attended. The training focused on equipping the participants with skills and an



understanding of child developmental stages, parenting skills, and legal instruments for protecting children's rights, child rights and responsibilities; forms of child abuse, leadership skills at various levels and peaceful elections.

We invite our readers to partner with us and to support us through encouraging each other,

through prayer, and by your spreading the word about the work of ERAN.

Peace to you all

Luvidicus Omollo, ERAN Intern.







# ---- PICTURES OF THE WEEK -



The editor bumped into Br Sammy Munyua at the Jesuit Novitiate in Lusaka where Sammy is doing his 30 day retreat



**Seeking Divine Intervention** 









**Seeking Divine intervention** 



L-R Brs Tony Shanahan, Bill Dowling, Simon Odongo, Michael de Klerk and Tom Kearney

#### **BIRTHDAYS**

MARCH	23	JOHN NYAMBA (Luampa, Zambia)
	26	BILL COLFORD (Eldoret)

30 EDWARD MASINDE (Limulunga, Zambia)

31 SIMON PETER ODONGO (Yambio)

#### **CALENDAR**

March 7-8 Province Formation Team Meeting (Nairobi)
March 13-14 Formation Committee Meeting (Nairobi)
March 20-24 PLT Meeting (Nairobi)

March 24 Mary Rice Launch of the Strategic Plan







April 4-8 EREA immersion

April 13-17 District Assembly – Mary Ward
April 18 Community Leaders Meeting
April 20 Departure of OP group to India

May 2-7 Mission Capacity Support Team Meeting

May 15-16 Formation Committee Meeting

May 15-19 PLT Meeting

May 27 Br Pascal Kituku's death anniversary

May 31 – June 6 AP Long Workshop June 26-30 Accompaniment In-

Accompaniment In-services training

Many blessings

George



