

## East Africa District Newsletter

### DRAWN BY MYSTERY, DESTINED FOR LIFE.

Edition 131 March 20, 2017

#### — GHAZAL: WOMAN AT THE WELL —

BY CAROLYNE WRIGHT



In this late season, who is the woman at the well drawing water, reflecting on the woman at the well?

Millennial fissures in the well-rim, weed-choked cracks where brackish water rises for the woman at the well.

At the bottom of the well shaft, the sky's reflective eye opens, closes on the shadow of the woman at the well.

Where are the rains of bygone eras? Preterite weather yields more rusted bucketsful for the woman at the well...

Ancestral well of Jacob, where a weary traveler rests,

where Jesus asks for water from the woman at the well.

On the night of destiny, the angel Gabriel descends and hovers by the footprints of the woman at the well.

Jacob's ladder leans against the door of heaven— on the bottom rung, the woman at the well.

Women of Sychar, women of Shechem! Draw aside your veils, reveal the features of the woman at the well.

Wise ones, why do you weep? Do you fear your fate tips a mirror toward the woman at the well?

Oh artisan of sorrow, mystery's precision, sit down beside your sister, second self, the woman at the well.







# ----- MEETING OF MINISTRY LEADERS (March 16-17) -----



Edmund Rice Ministry leaders in Kenya and Tanzania gathered at Mary Ward Centre for two days of meeting. The meeting is convened under the umbrella of ERMEA (Edmund Rice Ministries East Africa). The meeting aimed at sharing significant developments happening in our ministries together with exploration of critical issues and challenges.

In one of the sessions, the leaders had an opportunity to receive an overview of the journey the District Mission has taken over the last 5 years, among them is the establishment of ERMEA as a forum in which the various ministries in the District could come together to network and collaborate with each other.

Br Francis Nkwabi, who is taking on the new role of ERMEA Coordinator, had an opportunity to share his vision for the role and how he can be a resource for the ministries especially in the area of capacity building and formation of the staff in the values and spirit of Blessed Edmund Rice. The ministry leaders too shared their expectations on how this new role of ERMEA could offer support in their respective ministries.

**Br George Massay** 





### —— EDMUND RICE CAMP NAIROBI – CHARITY VISIT WORK ———



Twenty five members of Karibu group gathered at Mother Teresa Home (Missionaries of Charity Sisters Langata) a home that cares for abandoned children with various physical and mental disabilities. ERAN's coordinator Mr. Johnstone Shisanya and Br. Bill Colford were also in present. We started our program at 9:00am and completed by 1:00pm. The main activities of the day were general cleaning, cooking in the kitchen and feeding the children.





Br. Bill Colford gave a very good input on the spirit of Edmund Rice, his vision and mission. Members were encouraged and inspired by Bill's talk. He pointed out to us that Br. Peter Cole was and is a living example of Edmund Rice spirit.

Sammy Muga

## ——— ENVIRONMENTAL CLEAN-UP AT LANG'ATA SOUTHLANDS ———



On the 14<sup>th</sup> Match, 2017, ERAN carried out an Environmental Cleanup exercise at Lang'ata Southlands, Mugumo-ini Location of Lang'ata sub-county in partnership with the Mugumo-ini Chief's Office, Nairobi County Environment Division, Social Awareness and Development Agency (SADA), County Health Volunteers (CHV), and a number of youth groups in the area.

Environmental Care is one of ERAN's programmatic areas aimed at sensitizing locals on the importance of having and maintaining a clean and sustainable environment, promotion of tree planting, and water and sanitation.

Its was a very successful activity which attracted many partners and more than 70 participants.

**Ludivicus Omolo** 







## ----- EDMUND RICE CAMP NAIROBI GENERAL MEETING -----



Our general meeting took place at Mary Rice Center and with 38 camp leaders we all tried to review the Edmund Rice Ministries East Africa (ERMEA) "Pillars and Features" document. It was a moment of also reviewing our first quarter activities calendar through evaluation and planning for second quarter calendar. The executive members shared the vision and mission of Edmund Rice and planned the way forward. They also gave feedback on all areas covered during the executive gathering at St. Joseph Karen two weeks ago. We revised each leaders roles and responsibilities.

Sammy Muga

#### ——— SOUTH C OPEN HOUSE ———

Brothers in Nairobi and few friends gathered at South C on Sunday evening (19<sup>th</sup> March) to have a "tour" of the newly renovated District offices and enjoyed the evening meal and great company. In total about 34 people attended the event.

This office facility will serve as the District administrative center.

Members of the Province Leadership Team who are in Nairobi for their meeting joined the brothers and friends in what turned out to be an





enjoyable evening at South C.



We wish to say thank you to all who made the evening a success.

Br George Massay

### WARM WISHES TO BR PATRICK CORNELIUS CAREY -



On St Patrick's Day, South C Community, moved by the spirit of brotherhood, made a concerted effort to reach out to Br Cornelius Carey to wish him a happy 100th birthday.

Despite our desire to speak to him, the only one we spoke to was his carer, who promised

L-R Brs Frank O'Shea, George Massay and Tony Shanahan

us that the wishes will reach him. We hope he enjoyed the day, just as much as we were thrilled thinking of him celebrating his great milestone.

**Br George Massay** 





#### **BIRTHDAYS**

MARCH 2	23 JO	IN NYAMBA	(Luampa,	Zambia)
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BILL COLFORD (Eldoret) 26

EDWARD MASINDE (Limulunga, Zambia) SIMON PETER ODONGO (Yambio) 30

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#### **CALENDAR**

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-services training

Many blessings

George



