



Christian Brothers
East Africa District

East Africa District Newsletter

DRAWN BY MYSTERY, DESTINED FOR LIFE.

Edition 135
April 18, 2017

THE SECOND WORD

The first formidable
word gave voice to wonder —
the first cloud and rush
of thunder
after summer's drought.

The first green blade,
and shaft winged to kill —
and they're chasing still
on the cave wall
in Wadi Hilil.

Yet down the years lay in wait
a more discerning word,



the most profound, which
gave meaning to wonder —
one early morning
near Gethsemane,
when Jesus said 'Mary'.
No tangled cipher here,
such perfect aim and flight.
the consummate ambush
and death of mortality.

Dr. John Ashley





———— **EAST AFRICA DISTRICT ANNUAL ASSEMBLY** ————



Br Paul Mutuku carrying the cross during the ceremony of the Stations of the Cross

The Brothers gathered on Holy Thursday night at Mary Ward Center to begin their celebrations of the Triduum and their annual assembly. Good F

riday morning set the tone for the next few days when Sister Mary Owens IBVM challenged the Brothers to reflect on how the crucifixion of Jesus was continuing in our world today and what response can we offer. Mary's input was followed by a very moving and creative Way of the Cross each station being led by a different community. Friday afternoon saw the brothers attend services in various sites around Mary Ward.



Brothers gathering around the empty cross on Holy Saturday

On Saturday morning the Brothers focused on the Empty Tomb. Frank O'Shea expanded on Sister Mary's theme of suffering by





discussing the need to have a mature attitude in dealing with emptiness in our lives and how to address it.

Following Frank's presentation, Tony led a sharing on the report from the CLT identifying the strengths and challenges of the District as they saw it during their visitation. In the afternoon Tony led the Brothers in a discussion of the possibility of East Africa forming a "Cluster" of its own. The Easter Vigil was again attended in various locations in the area.

On Sunday morning there was a panel discussion (formed by Brothers who ministered in Yambio) on the future of Brothers involvement in Yambio, South Sudan. The panel presented a very positive evaluation of the mission. In the open forum that followed it was evident that the work of present and past members of Yambio was greatly appreciated. A strong indication was given by those present that the community in Yambio should not only continue, but be given as much support as was needed to ensure that it continues.

Monday morning was dedicated to two items of business connected with vocations. The possibility of accepting vocation applications from South Sudan and Uganda generated much discussion. The need for a vocation promoter in Tanzania was raised. Russell gave a brief reflection on his contact in a remote village in Mannya, and how the Brothers presence could be greatly appreciated. Bill Colford shared about the activities of ERN and invited all Brothers to gather for Edmund Rice Day celebration on May 6th at Karen community.



Brothers missioned to India L-R Silverio Wafula, Isaac Odongo, Allan Mwash, Edwin Wekulo, Wyclife Maisiba, Melkizedek Musamia and Kelvin Otieno

The assembly concluded by missioning our "magnificent" seven who will be traveling to India on Wednesday to join the Orientation





Program being run by Transition Support Team (TST) towards preparations of joining the new cluster of communities. We wish these our Brothers well in their period of discernment and preparations.

Br Bill Colford

———— **KARIBU GROUP GETS LAUGH LAST?** ————



Brothers' squad for the football match against our Edmund Rice Karibu Group Youth

It was the turn of the Karibu Group to laugh after thrashing the well-selected full-strength Christian Brothers team 2-0 in a game that attracted a lot of excitement from both the players and the fans. The team for the Christian Brothers with players from as far as Zambia and Tanzania came into the game as favorite after a first leg advantage of 2 goals. Despite this advantage, the Brothers made a number of changes to their squad with their two strong men in defense missing out and the key contributor to the win in the first leg, Br. Mallya, starting on the bench - a plan that worked against them.

The Karibu team kept pressing and it was not until after 20 minutes of active play that they first put the ball behind the net. A well taken free kick about 20 yards from the goal post put the Karibu team ahead 1-0 - thanks to Sammy Muga for the curving ball that the Brothers' goalkeeper was unable to stop. Starting their game from the middle of the pitch, it looked as if bees had been disturbed from their hives with Brothers using long balls into attack to restore their hopes of winning the second leg. However, this could not help as the Karibu team defense was well packed. The first half ended with a goal advantage to the Karibu team.





At half time, one of the greatest thing ever in the history of football happened. A member of the technical bench of the Brothers served water to both teams something that left all in joy. The love that was



Brothers and Edmund Rice Karibu Youth after a bruising football match

exhibited showed just how significant this match was. It was a nice time for both the Karibu youth and the entire Brothers' community.

At the start of the second half, the urge for more goals saw the Karibu group team push forward with a lot of vigour and, in less than five minutes into the half, Sammy did his magic again, getting past the defenders to head into the goal, making it a brace for him and leading to the immediate substitution of the Brothers' goalkeeper from Br Chris Munialo to Br Simon Kaswahili. What then followed was a hard decision for the Brothers' manager - to bring a trio from the bench into the team - this seemed to stabilize their play. The game looked to be even with attacks on both ends sending shivers to the goalies. At the end of 90 minutes the score line remained 2-0 in favor of the Karibu team.

However, despite the win the aggregate score after both legs was 2-2 which would necessitate a penalty shoot out. Fortunately, with the agreement of both teams, the shoot out was avoided as the main intention for the game was not winning but bonding and having a nice time sharing in the common aim of Edmund Rice - community inclusivity. The spirit of oneness and love was alive throughout and it was all smiles as both teams left the grounds. Easter period came to an end in a most satisfying way with the sharing of drinks and brief inputs from various speakers from both sides.

John Muisyo
ERKG- camps coordinator.





———— **PICTURE OF THE WEEK** ————

The South Central District concluded their annual assembly on Holy Thursday. We received a picture which is worth sharing.



———— **BROTHER BEAUSANG CATHOLIC EDUCATION CENTRE-
FEAST OF BLESSED EDMUND RICE MASS AND
“BUS HARAMBEE”** ————

Brother Beausang school will be celebrating the feast of Blessed Edmund Rice on Friday May 5th with a special Mass at 9.00 a.m. at Embulbul Catholic Church. Bishop John Oballa the Bishop of Ngong Diocese will be the celebrant.

Following Mass there will be a blessing of “Eddie’s Workshop”, the school’s recently completed trade building.

A Harambee to raise funds towards the school acquiring its own bus will then commence at 11.00 a.m.

All members of the wider Edmund Rice family are invited to attend all or part of the day. Lunch and entertainment will be part of the Harambee.

RSVP to Br. Sunday Constantine – 0700 447 844

Mr Peter Shanahan

Principal





BIRTHDAYS

APRIL 18 JULIAS OLUOCH (Shams)

CALENDAR

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

Many blessings

George

