



AUTOBIOGRAPHY IN FIVE SHORT CHAPTERS

(There's a Hole in My Sidewalk)

~ Portia Nelson ~



Chapter 1

I walk down the street.
There is a deep hole in the sidewalk.
I fall in.
I am lost ... I am helpless.
It isn't my fault.
It takes forever to find a way out.

Chapter 2

I walk down the same street.
There is a deep hole in the sidewalk.
I pretend I don't see it.
I fall in again.
I can't believe I am in the same place.
But it isn't my fault.
It still takes a long time to get out.

Chapter 3

I walk down the same street.
There is a deep hole in the sidewalk.
I see it is there.

I still fall in ... it's a habit.
My eyes are open.
I know where I am.
It is my fault.
I get out immediately.

Chapter 4

I walk down the same street.
There is a deep hole in the sidewalk.
I walk around it.

Chapter 5

I walk down another street.





———— CONGRATULATIONS BR NICHOLAS MINANDI ————



Br Nicholas Minandi (BEd)

Br Nicholas Minandi graduated with a Bachelors Degree in Education on Saturday 29th April from Christ the Teacher Institute of Education (of St Mary's University, Minnesota). Present at the ceremony were his family members, Brothers and friends, some coming all the way from Arusha. During the reception held at the Brothers residence in Karen, various speakers congratulated Nicholas of his achievement.

Having being trained in the De La Salle tradition, Nicholas was reminded of his University's Motto which is "Teaching Minds, Touching Hearts and Transforming Lives". He was urged to take that as his motto in his life and ministry, as he now gives back to society.

We wish Nicholas well in his ministry appointment at Edmund Rice Sinon Secondary School in Arusha – Tanzania.

Br George Massay

———— ANZAC DAWN SERVICE NAIROBI 2017 ———— MOURNING THE SOLDIERS WHO DIED IN 1915,

On Monday evening 24.4.17 we 13 students from Wanawake Kwa Wanawake Chappell Informal School were asking, "Where are we going? Is it going to be a nice occasion, really?" My mind was a complex web of confusion. We prayed as our Matatu journey commenced and we soon arrived at the Rosa Mystical hotel. We were welcomed with the aroma of chips and chicken, which made the mouths of my fellow students water like hungry wolves. After supper we went to bed on the nice high-density mattresses.

Next morning, Sr Leonida took us to the Nairobi War Cemetery. The dawn was engulfed in pitch darkness and even the devil, father of darkness, was afraid to roam about. We were all cold and shivering but were warmly welcomed by Ms Bobby Sura of the Australian High Commission and given a place to stand.





At exactly 6 am the speeches started and some singers sang, including our local Seraphine Maipei. We sang “Abide with Me”, led by Sr Kevina. The laying of the wreaths from different countries was most memorable.

People from Anzac countries came to mourn the soldiers who died in 1915, looking for a peaceful world. Many countries sent their commissioners. They all prayed that there would be a good relationship between Kenya and the European and African countries. After the service we enjoyed a big breakfast with all those attending the service.



In the photo, I am on back left, then Bro Russell and Sr Loretta Brennan. On the front are some of my fellow students with Sr Kevina.

**Livingstone Okiya, (14 yrs)
Chappell High Student 2017**

———— COME AND SEE PROGRAM ————

Six young men accepted the invitation to attend a Come and See program at the Christian Brothers community in Embulbul from 23 - 29 April. We came from different parts of Kenya: from Nyeri, Embu, Kisii, Migori, Kakamega and Busia.





During the one-week program we had an opportunity to visit various communities and ministries run by Christian Brothers. The life and ministry of the Brothers impressed us. We met Br Frank O'Shea at Ruben Centre where he shared with us the beginning and development of Ruben Centre. We also had an opportunity to visit Brother Beausang Education Centre where we saw the great work the Brothers are doing. We visited Otiende community and Br Russell Peters engaged us on the story of Christian Brothers.



Figure 1L-R Denis Khasavuli, Francis Njagi, Douglas Moronde, Br Russell Peters, Fredrick Watembo, Davies Ondwash and kneeling Joseph Gichuki

In Embulbul community we had various sharings with Brs Tom Kearney, Constantine Sunday, Lawrence Agalo and George Massay. All of these sharing enlightened us on who are the Christian Brothers. We go back home grateful for this wonderful experience. Please keep us in your prayers as we discern our vocation to become Brothers.

Davie, Joseph, Douglas, Francis, Denis and Fred

———— **ERAN TRAININGS AT EDUCATION FOR LIFE
(EFL) IN ELDORET** ————

ERAN recently presented two workshops over four days in Eldoret

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS WORKSHOP





The training at EFL started with a two-day workshop for high school students who are beneficiaries of the EFL program. A total of 48 students participated.



The training theme was child rights and responsibilities. Other areas covered included self-identity, communication and goal setting. The participants were happy to have acquired new skills and knowledge to help them deal with their challenges, which include drug abuse, sexual abuse, and relationships. The participants requested more workshops as there are no other organizations in Eldoret offering similar opportunities.

PARENT WORKSHOP EFL

The second two-day workshop was for parents who are beneficiaries of the EFL program. A total of 47 parents participated, mostly women. The theme of the workshop was human rights and peace building. Other areas that were covered included healing from trauma and reporting child abuse cases, which are very rampant. The participants raised a major concern: cultural traditions prevent people from reporting child abuse and domestic violence against women. They also said that a lack of awareness on how and where to report the cases perpetuates silence while the abuse rages on. They reported that police and local administration leaders receive bribes to judge that the abuse cases are baseless or to allow the problems to be settled within the home, thus leaving victims without justice. Because only 4 of the total 47 participants were men, the participants requested that ERAN organize another training to focus on men who are the major actors in cases of abuse. There is a lot that needs to be done on creating awareness in the area of child abuse and methods of resolving conflicts at the household level where cases of domestic abuse and gender violence is high.





“AMANI WALK”



On 29th April ERAN held a youth for peace walk within Embulbul community. The walk is a follow-up event to the youth camp on 21st April, during which the youth resolved to play a role in creating awareness on the need for peaceful coexistence in community in order to avert violence and insecurity in Embulbul before, during, and after the 2017 elections. A total of 49 youth, aged 9 to 27, participated. The Peace walk was flagged off by the area chief and the ODM MCA aspirant for Ololua ward, Mr. Koru. The 2 hours walk was very successful as the entire Embulbul community ran to the road to see and hear the message of peace. Thanks to the team (ERAN volunteers Ludovicus and Victor, and four other camp and life skills volunteers) who did the planning to make the event such a success.

Johnstone Shisanya

EDMUND RICE KARIBU GROUP

The long Labor Day weekend was a packed one for the Karibu Group as we had an activity on every single day.

FULL DAY CAMP

The full day camp on Saturday laid the foundation and set off the pack of activity. With over 80 children and 45 leaders the day moved





smoothly. The organization was in order under the captaincy of Dominic Musembi, who made sure things went as planned.



The action that was full of energy would catch the eyes of any spectator or passerby. The children tirelessly enjoyed the games in every one of the five stations. The leaders were in their top gear as they made sure every child was engaged and that all learnt the games as they were being directed. It was such a nice thing to see children and leaders engage in big-brother big-sister relationships.

In the afternoon, after sharing the nice meal prepared by our all-time best chefs Eliza and Miriam the five mini groups sat to discuss educational matters. Being that this was the last weekend before school opens for the second term, it was in order to remind the children about the importance of going to school and working hard towards achieving their dreams. Some children shared their dreams and why they go to school and it was overwhelming how ambitious and positive they were.

The camp ended a success with both children and leaders satisfied.

GROUP MEETING

On Sunday afternoon the Karibu group leaders met at the Mary Rice Center for a meeting. During the meeting, strategies to make the





group more successful were prioritized. Members discussed the trial version that had been initiated earlier on. This was engaging a number of leaders for an activity and it was a well agreed on idea. It was very mature to hear leaders table their observations and at the same time listening to others without underestimating. The meeting was well concluded with plans for the upcoming activity on Saturday the 6th May 2017 well laid and the need for a new strategic plan for the group also given weight.

John Muisyo

— HALF DAY CAMP —



Despite heavy rain on Sunday night, 35 children and 27 leaders gathered at Mary Rice Centre on Monday 1st May, 2017 for a half day camp program. The camp started with a prayer reflection lead by 3 small girls (children) and two camp leaders. The theme of the day was “Edmund Rice a man of Vision”. We chose this theme to mark and to commemorate the feast of blessed Edmund Rice which is to happen on 5th May, 2017. Mid-morning was more on physical camp activities then later followed by art and craft and face painting. Two small children, Yvonne and Ann, demonstrated confidence when they recited a poem about Edmund Rice’s care for many children and how the Edmund Rice camps have benefited them: through Edmund Rice





camps many children have built strong friendships and leadership skills. They said that they have learnt to be obedient and to be patient in life despite the background poverty that they experience on a daily basis. Through Edmund Rice Camps children have learnt how to study well in school and, as a result, they have improved in the last term of schools academically.

John Muisyo and Sammy Muga

———— **BLESSED EDMUND RICE DAY FEAST DAY** ————

Brothers in Nairobi and friends of Edmund Rice are invited at Karen Community on **May 6th** for prayer and meal to celebrate the feast day of our founder Blessed Edmund Rice.

The event will begin at **3pm**

Community Leaders are requested notify Br Francis Nkwabi the number of Brothers attending the celebration from each community for catering purposes.

———— **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 in May

MAY	04	CLEM BARRETT (Sinon)
	12	AMOS KUTWA (Embulbul)





17	SAMUEL MUNYUA (Mongu. Zambia)
17	PAUL FOLLAS (Keating House, Lusaka)
28	MELKIZEDECK MUSAMIA (Shillong - India)

CALENDAR

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

