Christian Brothers
East Africa District

East Africa District Newsletter

DRAWN BY MYSTERY, DESTINED FOR LIFE.

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DYING TO LIVE

Francis (of Assisi) was at once very traditional and entirely new in the ways of holiness, and he is still such a standing paradox. He stood barefoot on the earth and yet touched the heavens. He was grounded in the Church and yet moved instinctively toward the Cosmos. He lived happily inside the visible and yet both suffered and rejoiced in what others thought was invisible. Again and again, he was totally at home in two worlds at the same time, and thus he made them into one world.

Francis and Clare died into the life that they loved instead of living in fear of any death that could end their life. They were both so very eager to love, and they somehow knew that dying to the old and unneeded was an essential part of living this love at any depth. Most of us do not seem to know that--and we resist all change.

Jesus, Paul, Francis and Clare made room for the new by a full willingness to let go of the old. This is quite a rare pattern in the history of formal religion, which is too often a love affair with small and comfortable traditions. Each of these game-changing people had the courage and the clarity to sort out what was perennial wisdom from what was unreal, passing, merely cultural, or even destructive, which is exactly how Jesus describes the way "a disciple of the Kingdom" behaves. He says that such disciples are "householders who bring out from their household things both old and new" (Matthew 13:52).

Adapted from *"Eager to Love": The Alternative Way of Francis of Assisi.* Richard Rohr

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ERMEA conference Underway

Leaders of Edmund Rice Ministries in East Africa

ERMEA, which stands for Edmund Rice Ministry East Africa is having its third conference this year at Mary Ward Centre. The 25 participants are leaders of the ministries or those who are in senior leadership positions in our ministries.

The purpose of the conference is to review our ministries in the light of *Our Way into the Future,* especially as the ministries face the inevitable withdrawal of brothers from as they join new communities that are being established by our Transition Support Team.

INVITATION TO THE GRADUATION

Wycliffe Maisiba graduates on Friday May 29 at the graduation of Catholic University of Eastern Africa. The graduation is happening at the main campus of the University in the morning hours.

The Karen Community is hosting the traditional celebration at their residence to which all the Brothers are invited. The celebration will begin from 5.00 pm onwards on the Friday evening.

I am asking that Community Leaders inform the community members of the invitation and then inform John Paul of the numbers of Brothers attending the celebration. John Paul can be contacted **<koluochjp@yahoo.ie> or on 0718463279. This will be very helpful for hospitality reason.**

Tom Kearney

PICTURES OF THE WEEK

An unfortunate incident happened this week in which the youth of Kibera, after being incited demolished the perimeter wall of the Vigilian house. The house is used for income generating activities by parents of Mary Rice Children. Gerald Mgalula, the Director of Mary Rice, is making follow-ups with the authorities to resolve the situation.

Vigilian House with the newly constructed wall

After demolition

VOLUNTEER AT EDMUND RICE SINON

Liam O'Brien at Edmund Rice Sinon Secondary School

Liam O'Brien, a nephew of Br Eamon O'Brien is concluding his volunteer work at Edmund Rice Sinon Secondary School this month after spending three months at the school. We thank Liam for his generous contribution to our ministry and for his involvements with our postulants in Shamsi. We wish Liam well as he returns to Australia.

BIRTHDAYS

MAY 31 PETER KABIA (KAREN)

CALENDAR

MAY

24-26	ERMEA meeting
28-29	Formation Committee Meeting (Nairobi)

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JUNE

1	Madaraka Day
28 June – July 4	PLT Retreat (Nairobi)

JULY

4	PLT Retreat
5-21	PLT Visitation EAD

AUGUST

9-14	AP Long Workshop
10-15	PLT Meeting

SEPTEMBER

4-6	Child Protection Workshop
12	Nairobi Cluster
19	Arusha Cluster

Many blessings

George Massay

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