



September 21, 2015

### Weekly Reflection

To be alive: not just the carcass  
But the spark.  
That's crudely put, but ...

If we're not supposed to dance,  
Why all this music?

~ Gregory Orr ~

*(Concerning The Book That Is the Body Of The Beloved)*



There is a freedom that comes from the Spirit and there is a freedom that comes from worldliness. The Lord calls you – and he calls us all – to... a “prophetic way” of freedom, namely, the freedom that is united to witness and fidelity.

Consecrated life can also be sterile, when it is not, in fact, prophetic; when one is not allowed to dream. Let us think of St. Therese of the Child Jesus: shut in a convent, also with a Prioress who wasn't very easy... She never lost the capacity to dream; she never lost the horizons! To the point that today she is the Patroness of the Missions; she is the Patroness of the horizons of the Church.

Prophecy, capacity to dream is the contrary of rigidity. The rigid can't dream.

*(From remarks by Pope Francis to a gathering of 5,000 young religious men and women in Rome)*





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## ARUSHA COMMUNITIES CLUSTER MEETING AT ENGOSENGIU



The Arusha Cluster meeting was successfully held on 19<sup>th</sup> September 2015. The meeting took place at Engosengiu community. The facilitator, Br. George Massay, opened the meeting with a simple reflection based on the theme “You Know the Way Lord”. After the reflection the participants had an opportunity to recap all the 26 propositions of OWITF and to prayerfully identify key principles underlying the entire proposition.

At the end, the Brothers settled on four principles which were also a recommendation to the DLT to focus on: (1) Quality of community - joyful, trustful, supportive, resilient and self sustaining; (2) Mutual engagement with poor and collaborative ministry; (3) Spiritual search; (4) Advocacy and solidarity with the Earth and people. The meeting concluded with a power point presentation of the District financial situation. Though there was a lengthy discussion on financial matters, the meeting ended harmoniously.

**Simon Kaswahili**

## TWO BIRTHDAYS AT ENGOSENGIU = 100 YEARS

The two communities, Shams and Engesengiu, after the Cluster meeting on Saturday, proceeded to Tembo Gardens to celebrate birthdays of Br. Bill Dowling and Miss Adrienne Ringin, our volunteer and good friend. Bill was turning 76 and Adrienne 24, and they were very happy to celebrate their special days with us all. The celebration was made more enjoyable due to the fact that only birthday cards for a 50<sup>th</sup> birthday were available in the shopping mall!





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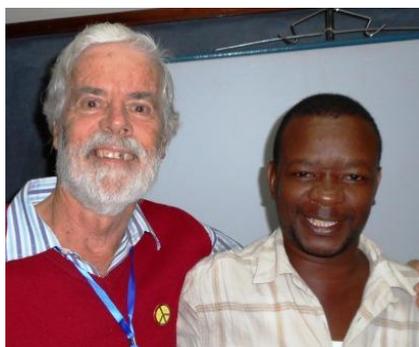
*(From l. clockwise) Bill and Adrienne, ready to cut; Gerard; Kevin; Clem (hands only visible – sorry Clem); Wycliffe; Elly.*

We solved the problem - Bill ended up receiving a card handwritten 50 years + 26, while Adrienne's read 50 years – 26. Bill thanked the community for the honour, love care and support he has received, and Adrienne was grateful for the experience she had received in community and in school for the past two years of her volunteer experience. She was sad that her time was ending soon, in December 2015, and it was necessary for her to return to Australia for further studies. However, she promised to be back to Arusha sometime after her studies. The Brothers thanked Bill and Adrienne for their contribution in community and in school and wished both of them long life.

**Simon Kaswahili**

### **VISIT TO EAST AFRICA OF BR. MOY HITCHEN**

Br. Moy Hitchen of Edmund Rice International, Geneva, is with us this week after a week in South Africa. In collaboration with Edmund Rice Advocacy Network (ERAN), Moy is helping to present a workshop at Dimesse Centre. More next week on the workshop, but we are happy to welcome Moy, who has welcomed some of us from EAD t Geneva in recent times, e.g. Amandi, Sammy Munyua and Joash.



*Moy and Amandi catch up on news from Geneva.*





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We are also delighted to welcome Jessica and Andrea, from Cape Town, South Africa. They both work in the Social Justice and Advocacy office of the Edmund Rice Network in South Africa, and are good friends and colleagues. Along with them we welcome Megan Seneque, South African by origin and resident in France, who was here in May to present a workshop with Peter Harney, and is co-presenting this workshop with Moy.



*At the Dimesse workshop opening last night (from l.): Rufina (ERAN), Moy Hitchen (ERI), Amandi, Megan Seneque (Co-presenter), Andrea, Tony, Jessica and Irene (ERAN). Where's Joash? He was late for the photo... Maybe he'll make it next week.*

### **EDMUND RICE KARIBU CAMPS FOR KIDS**

Despite other activities going on last Saturday, like the Deanery Festival competitions, we still managed almost 30 leaders who persisted despite finding the heat a bit much. Again we had new leaders, mainly female. The kids were unrelenting in their energy though it seems they did enjoy the quieter after-lunch tempo with the group sharing, craft and skits. I continue to appreciate the supportive work done by a few leaders, before and after the camp activity. This is the spirit of Edmund. I thought the day was highly successful.

**Peter Cole**





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## INVITATIONS

Over the next few weeks there are a number of events to which Brothers are invited.

**Reflection morning on Laudato Sii, Saturday, Sept. 26, 9 am to noon** – you are invited to a morning of exploring and reflecting on the recent encyclical of Pope Francis, “Laudato Sii”, to be led by Br. Moy Hitchen of Edmund Rice International in Geneva. Moy is with us this week in Nairobi for a workshop, and has generously agreed to our request to lead this reflection. It will be at Mary Ward Centre. If you are coming, please let Joash know *as soon as possible* on **0721 104557**.

**Eucharist to conclude the Symposium on Consecrated Life** – Brothers have been advised of this already. Whether or not you attend the symposium, you are invited to join in the celebration of Eucharist to conclude the week. Unfortunately it is on next Saturday morning, September 26, at Tangaza College, clashing with the reflection morning on “Laudato Sii”. Difficult choices to make...

**Vincent’s Graduation** - You will have read several weeks ago that Vincent Mallya defended his thesis on the "Involvement of Students in Community Service Activities" for his Masters’ degree at the Institute of Social Ministry at Tangaza College.

On Friday, October 2, 2015, Vincent will formally graduate at the CUEA campus with the degree Master of Arts in Social Ministry. The graduation starts at 9am and will probably continue till around 2 pm.

On the same day, Friday, October 2, Brothers are invited to join the Karen Community to celebrate Vincent’s graduation, starting from 3pm.

*For catering purposes, Community Leaders are asked to inform John Paul (0718463279) about the numbers expected to attend.*

**“Gone Fishing” Commissioning** – Brothers in East Africa are familiar by now with the Gone Fishing immersion trips organized by Anthony Ryan, CEO of Edmund Rice Foundation Australia. These visits usually include a Commissioning Ceremony during the celebration of Mass, to which Brothers are invited.

However, the schedule for this group won’t allow that, so the commissioning will be a simple ceremony on Sunday evening, October 4, at 8 pm at Mary Ward Centre. Brothers are invited to join in welcoming the group to East Africa. There will be drinks and nibbles after the ceremony.





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## REMAINING BIRTHDAYS IN SEPTEMBER

24 FRANK O'SHEA (Balozi)  
GEORGE MASSAY (Sth C)  
25 PASCAL KITUKU (Yambio)  
27 ALLAN SHUNZA (First year novice, Tamale)  
29 NICODEMUS OKUKU (Balozi)

## CALENDAR

October 2-3 CLs meeting (Mary Ward)  
October 4-6 ERMEA meeting (Mary Ward)  
October 14 DLT meeting  
October 16-18 Annually Professed Workshop (Sagana)  
October 20 Mashujaa Day (Kenya)  
October 21 DLT meeting  
October 23-24 Formation Committee (Nairobi)  
October 28-30 DLT, PLT and CLT meeting in Lusaka

November 21 First profession Lusaka  
November 23-27 PLT meeting in Lusaka

December 11-14 District Assembly  
December 12 Jamhuri Day (Kenya)

Many Blessings,

Tony Shanahan (Acting Editor)

