



Christian Brothers
East Africa District

East Africa District Newsletter

DRAWN BY MYSTERY, DESTINED FOR LIFE.

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TO MY GRANDDAUGHTERS



*To my granddaughters who visited the
Holocaust Museum on the day of the burial
of Yitzhak Rabin*

Now you know the worst
we humans have to know
about ourselves, and I am sorry,
for I know that you will be afraid.

To those of our bodies given
without pity to be burned, I know
there is no answer but loving one
another, even our enemies, and this is
hard.

But remember:
when a man of war becomes a man of
peace, he gives a light, divine

though it is also human.
When a man of peace is killed
by a man of war, he gives a light.

You do not have to walk in darkness.
If you will have the courage for love,
you may walk in light. It will be the light
of those who have suffered
for peace. It will be
your light.

~ Wendell Berry ~





WELCOME BACK



This last week Br Francis Nkwabi returned back to the District after completing his studies in USA. We wish him well as he settles in to the life in the District, and as he prepares to take on a new role of ERMEA Coordinator. Karibu sana

L-R Brs Amandi Mboya and Francis Nkwabi at South C

COME AND SEE IN YAMBIO



Br Jim Keane, who has been working in Mazabuka, is discerning a possibility of joining Yambio community and working at Solidarity Teachers College, an experience he is enjoying so far. Yambio community is slowly forming as other members are returning from their holidays. We wish Jim well as he discerns his future ministry. We are grateful of his openness to explore ministry possibility in Yambio.

L-R Brs Tony Shanahan, Jim Keane and Fr Joseph Kikuyu at South C

INAUGURATION DAY AT BROTHER BEAUSANG

Friday January 20 was not only the 'special' day for Donald J. Trump but also for the elected student leaders at Brother Beausang Catholic Education Centre.

Both the primary and secondary students and staff assembled in the beautiful early morning Embulbul sunshine to witness the event which was also an opportunity to welcome the Form 1 students who were attending their first school assembly.





Student leaders with Head Teachers Henry Kimiywi (Secondary), Eva Njagi (Primary) and the Principal Peter Shanahan

Unlike the 45th President of the United States, the key student leaders – Head Boy /Girl and Deputy Head Boy / Girl - in both primary and secondary had to win the popular vote by at least 50% + 1 and so only acclaim greeted the victorious candidates, not protests! One inauguration day hiccup however was the late withdrawal / resignation of the Deputy Head Boy – elect (Secondary) on the “advice” of his parents due to alleged laziness at home – unfortunately despite special prayers this did not happen in the Trump family!

Form 4 and Class 8 students were also presented with a special tie and lanyard respectively to highlight their status as the candidate groups for 2017.

The event was the culmination of a busy second week of the new school year which included the visit of the East Africa Harambee Immersion group from Australia led by Tom Purcell. Tom and the group spent Monday in the school , attended the opening school Mass





on the Wednesday then returned later in the afternoon for impromptu Australian Rules and netball games against the student teams.



Cross Section of the big crowd at the inauguration!!

Br. Richard Walsh and Br. John Casey were also visitors during the week whilst on visitation to the Embulbul Community.

Peter Shanahan

GROUP DYNAMICS WORKSHOP

A workshop on Group Dynamics, which was facilitated by Fr John Dunne SMA, took place at the International Spirituality Centre in Lusaka from 16- 20 January 2017. The workshop brought together 14 Brothers who are involved in formation work at various levels in the Africa Province.





The workshop was convened by the Province Formation Team to provide skills to the participants on how to address various issues that happen in any formation program in the area of group dynamics.



Back row from left Brs Hugh Moloney, Joe Mosely, John McCourt, John Paul, Henry McGann, Seamus O'Reiley, Revy Hang'andu, Julias Oluoch and George Massay. Front row - John Holden, Martin Binyenya, Andrew Koroma, Daniel Lyimo and Senan D'Souza

During one of the prayers, the words of a Leonard Cohen song, *“There is a crack in everything, that’s how the light gets in”*, made sense as we identified some cracks in our programs, and we found ways of addressing them. Addressing these cracks is aimed at enhancing the quality of our brotherhood as we live our Chapter Calls.

Br George Massay

———— **EDMUND RICE CAMPS, JANUARY 14 AND 15, 2017 at
REGINA PACIS** ————

We had 85 children and approx. 45 leaders. As usual, there was great energy from the children and the leaders were stretched to respond. The two days were full of animation, interaction and creativity. We were happy with the Australian group introducing a dance routine, a good innovation. Again, the children were delighted to relate to the Aussie members, and their smiles, laughter, and responsiveness made all their efforts in getting to Kenya worthwhile.





On the Sunday, we finished with a breaking of the bread ritual that deeply engaged members and a feedback /evaluation process facilitated by the Aussie members that nicely expressed their gratitude for all that had been.

BR PETER COLE

———— **EDMUND RICE CAMPS.**
GENERAL MEETING, JANUARY 22ND. ————



The meeting introduced Br. Silverio Wafula as the acting director of Edmund Rice Karibu Group (ERKG) and Brs John Casey and Julian McDonald as welcome visitors. The afternoon included an Edmund





reflection and especially small group sharing on crucial questions concerning personal development of leaders and evaluation of the group's performance in fulfilling the Edmund vision on the recent camps and immersion outreaches. 50 leaders attended.

BR.PETER COLE

DEVELOPING STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



Br Amandi Mboya talking to a point while Tony Shanahan, Andrew Otsieno and George Massay listen

The District Leadership spent a day articulating its strategic priorities for the remainder of its term (i.e. till 2020). Mr Andrew Otsieno expertly engaged us in just one day to identify a number of strategic priorities and action plan to guide ourselves for the next three and half years of our office term. Having these priorities gives us a road map of where we wish our District to be by 2020.

Br George Massay

BIRTHDAYS

JANUARY	26	DANIEL LYIMO (ISC Lusaka)
	28	TOM KEARNEY (Embulbul)





CALENDAR

JANUARY 29	Cluster meeting – CLT and Brothers (Mary Ward)
FEBRUARY 10-12	AP workshop
FEBRUARY 19-23	CLT meet African leadership teams (Lusaka)
FEBRUARY 25	Final Profession of Simon Peter Odongo
March 7-8	Province Formation Team Meeting (Nairobi)
March 13-14	Formation Committee Meeting (Nairobi)
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

Many blessings

George

