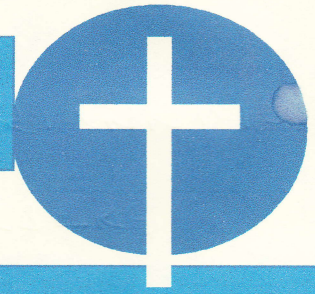


2015 NEWSLETTER



Dear friends and collaborators in social development,

I greet you all in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. First I want to take this opportunity to express my utmost heartfelt gratitude to you all for the support that you have given me and the church throughout this year. We have been able to make key strides and notable achievements towards social development and improved livelihoods. I present to you this newsletter, an outline of the accomplished, ongoing and a future prospect of our intended projects.

NOTABLE MILESTONES

ATHI PRIMARY SCHOOL DRINKING WATER PROJECT

Athi is a sub location within Juja Farm Constituency in Kiambu County. The area experiences a semi-arid climate with rainfall shortfalls almost throughout the year. The main source of water is the River Athi which is contaminated and not good for consumption.

Members of the community, including children have had to walk for long distances in search of clean drinking water. The existing water project is located about three Kilometers from the school and is fairly expensive & at times unavailable.

Based on this need, we initiated the project; *Athi Primary School water drilling project*, which was geared towards providing an alternate source of clean water for the school and the community.

Through support from the friends on Mariannahill, people of good will, and your contribution, we have managed to successfully drill three boreholes as well as equip, pipe, build water towers and build water storage facilities in Athi, and Juja Farm Catholic Church Parish.

Special thanks go to all the families who channeled the funds collected during farewell ceremonies of their beloved ones towards the project.



ATHI PRIMARY SCHOOL BUILDING PROJECT AND FEEDING PROGRAMME

Through your support, the support of Mariannahill provincialate in Wurzburg, friends of Mariannahill from Bad Abbach & Reken, Mariannahill community & school in Mariaveen, and Austria we have been able to construct 12 class rooms in Athi. Also, we are running a school feeding programme which satisfactorily serves up to three hundred (300) children! The programme covers the 10.00am and lunch break meals.

Through the office of the Procurator and Provincialate of Germany we have managed to initiate the construction of Athi Primary School administration block.

We have also began the construction of Athi Secondary school.

Our gratitude goes also to the families who have continually supported the school. In fact some families channeled the funds collected during the funerals of their beloved ones who had passed on, towards this project.

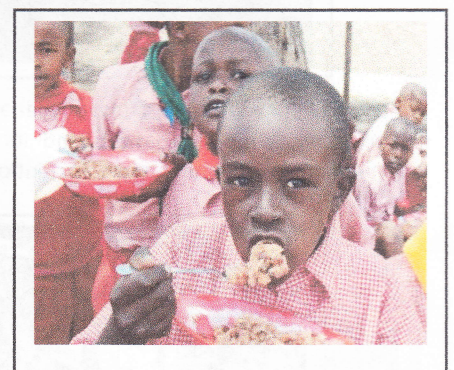
The photos below show part of the completed block, ongoing project progress and school feeding programme;



Athi, St. Michaels Primary School, 12 classrooms and foundation setting for the administration block



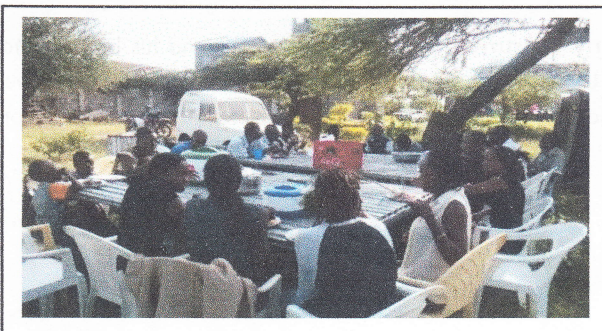
Athi, St Michaels school administration block under construction.



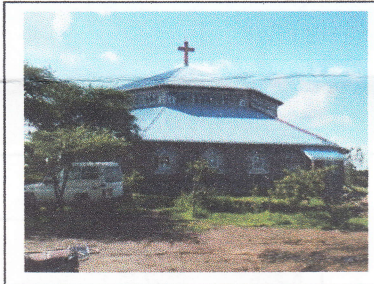
Athi Primary School feeding Program

Women and Youth have also benefited through the initiation of small self-help programmes. Through these Programmes, some of them have been able to initiate income generating projects. Other initiatives include equipping the youth with masonry, welding, fabrication and carpentry skills.

We are grateful!



Juja Farm Catholic Church Parish Youth during a meeting with the Matron



Transitions ...

Through your support, Jujafarm community has had transitions from ...

The small Church to the current Church Building... and other three outstations which are under construction...

Special thanks to Fr. Hubert Wendl, Marian Hill Magazine in Germany, the church, Juja Farm Parish women group and your support to the Juja Farm Parish Women Church bus project...this was a major transition from travelling using lorries to using the Church bus.

The Bus has been beneficial to the church, youth groups, orphanages, schools, polytechniques, universities, other churches and the community at large in their travel needs.

We also are grateful to the families, Mariaveen community, and the Mariaveen youth centre who supported the visits of three youth groups from Berlin, Mariaveen and its environs to Kenya and in particular to Juja Farm community. We appreciate their participation, involvement and contribution to our mission.



Rev. Fr. Thomas with a group of Youth from Mariaveen at Athi Catholic Church

Near future Plans for year 2016; Plans to establish our pastoral and social presence in the Archdiocese of Arusha in Longindo, Tanzania, 25 kilometres from the Kenyan boarder to Tanzania are underway. The area has a semi-arid climate and majority of the settlers are from the Maasai community. The area is short of resources such as food, water, dispensaries, maternity services, primary schools, ambulance services, solar energy among others. The area is also characterized by retrogressive cultures such as female genital mutilation, early and forceful marriages among others. With your support, and encouragement, the Eastern Africa region of Mariannahill believes that we can bring change and a new source of hope to this community! We urge you to continue supporting us in these noble initiatives.

I wish to convey to you and all your good people a happy and merry Christmass! May the infant Jesus and his blessed Mother shower in you all the abundant graces and favours. Again, I wish to sincerely thankyou for all the support you have given us throughout the year. Should you need any further information about our work, please do not hesitate to contact me or the Missionaries of Mariannahill in Wurzburg, Germany.

Reiterating my heartfelt thanks, I beg to remain truly yours,

Fr. Kaiza Roberts, CMM,

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