



Diocese of Kajo-Keji Voice of Hope



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**EDITORIAL: There is a divine purpose in every
adversity.**

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Dear Reader,

Welcome to this special issue of Voice of Hope by the Diocese of Kajo-Keji.

Amidst the global crisis of COVID-19, there is need to raise hope for resilience. This is exactly what this newsletter does to lift up your spirit. The beaming editors (Left to Right: Yanta Daniel Elisha & Komaa Nancy Martha in the picture above) are equally going through the adversity, but they have to conceal the dark side of the story to brighten your hope. Please, feel encouraged at this tough moment. There is a divine purpose in every adversity. (John 9:1-12)

We live in a world of volatility, uncertainty, complexity and ambiguity. However, we need hope to surmount these crests. It is only an ardent reader who can be victorious. Be one!

MESSAGE FROM THE BISHOP

**Be Stars for God's Glory:
Bishop**



Be Stars for God's Glory: Bishop

Amidst the global crisis of COVID-19, Rt Rev. Emmanuel Murye Modi, the Bishop of the Diocese of Kajo-Keji has challenged Christians to become stars for God's glory. "We are God given resources to transform our communities", he asserted.

Quoting from John 9:1-12, Bishop Emmanuel stresses that Christians should use the adversity to showcase the glory of God as Jesus Christ did while healing the blind man.

RESPONSE TO COVID—19

Bishop & Team Play Prophetic Role of Watchman



Bishop & Team Play Prophetic Role of Watchman

The Corona Virus Disease known as COVID– 19 was first detected in China and announced in January 2020. However in February 2020, it was declared a global crisis, the Diocese of Kajo-Keji decided to join the fight against curbing the spread of the virus in refugee and host community settings.

When the President of the Republic of Uganda, His Excellency Yoweri Kaguta Museveni declared lock-down measures throughout the country, The diocese learnt that some refugees hailing from Kajo-Keji, Lainya, Yei and Nimule were struggling to cross borders to collect food stuff or cultivate in their cradle lands to cope with food ratio reduction and limited service provision; thus creating conflict with the laws of the land of their sanctuary.

It was against this background that the Diocese of Kajo-Keji took the prophetic role of Ezekiel as a watchman to alert the flock on the dangers ahead of them.

The Diocese of Kajo-Keji formed a COVID–19 Task Force and wrote a concept paper on what it would do to curb the spread of the Coronavirus.

Given the noble cause, like minded partners quickly turned up to support the life changing mission. Among others were GZB, Project Delivering Hope and New Hope, The Good Samaritan.

DISTRIBUTION OF WASHING SOAP

Wash to eliminate Corona Virus, beneficiaries told



Wash to eliminate Corona Virus, beneficiaries told

The Diocese of Kajo-Keji has distributed two hundred and ten (210) cartons of washing soap to one thousand and forty eight (1048) beneficiaries. The beneficiaries included church workers and extremely vulnerable members of host and refugee congregation.

The church workers of Ma'di Archdeaconry were 152 individuals receiving three hundred and four (304) pieces of soap.

Other church workers and extremely vulnerable members of the host and refugee congregation totalling to eight hundred ninety-six (896) received one thousand seven hundred and ninety-two (1792) pieces of soap.

The package of washing soap was realized by a generous donation of US Dollars three thousand seven hundred (\$3700) from Project Delivering Hope.

GZB Netherlands also contributed an amount of US Dollars one thousand five hundred and thirty eight (\$1,538) towards the same cause. A total of one hundred and forty boxes was procured and distributed to seven hundred and two individuals (702).

The Diocese of Kajo-Keji thanks God for the brothers and sisters in the United Kingdom and Netherlands for their substantial support to the target beneficiaries.

Shelter the needy

DISTRIBUTION OF TARPAULINS



Shelter the needy

The Diocese of Kajo–Keji earlier received an amount of US Dollars one thousand three hundred (\$1300) for tarpaulins. The diocese procured a total of fifty seven (57) tarpaulins that were given to fifty seven (57) church leaders as recommended by the diocesan management. The delay in the distribution of the tarpaulins was due to a delay in the procurement process and the current lock down measure to curb the spread of COVID-19 that is why they were distributed together with the soap. The major reason for purchasing the tarpaulins was

because many pastors have damaged shelters. Some church leaders have no shelter to accommodate visitors. The pastors received the charitable offer with much gratitude. One of the pastors testified that he had been ashamed of having only one shelter. He said he was not able to receive and host guests gracefully as expected of a pastor.

Christianity entails servant leadership by leading exemplarily in serving with love as Jesus Christ, our Lord and Teacher taught us;

“...You also should wash one another’s feet”, John 13:14.

INVESTING IN SELF-RELIANCE

**Avert looming famine by
cultivation amidst COVID-19
lock-down, beneficiaries told**



Avert looming famine by cultivation amidst COVID-19 lock-down, beneficiaries told

New Hope, The Good Samaritan through the Diocese of Kajo-Keji has distributed three thousand two hundred and two (3,202) hoes to one thousand six hundred and one(1,601) beneficiaries. The beneficiaries included 1,150 females and 450 males. In addition 4,798 people are expected to benefit indirectly from the use of the hoes .

The package of hoes were realized by a generous donation of US Dollars ten thousand six hundred and fifteen (\$10,615) from New Hope, The Good Samaritan . This amount catered for the direct costs of the hoes excluding transport and distribution costs.

New Hope, The Good Samaritan's programme themed as 'Operation Feed the People' is an investment in self-reliance amidst the global crisis of COVID-19.

The investment in self-reliance is meant to avert looming famine in the aftermath of the novel virus.

Many thanks to the charity for its practical love and care.

COVID-19 creates chance for youth to innovate

“Seeds for
Empowerment” cries
for robust funding



The outbreak of the COVID-19 has created an opportunity for the youth to indulge in farming, says Rev. Capt. Nyamara Moses Modi, the Diocesan Youth & School Coordinator.

Two groups of youth have already started vegetable growing on small pieces of land in their church compounds, he adds.

The activity makes them busy to break boredom and stress, the coordinator observes.

The youth groups are expected to reap the fruits of their labour in coming months.

Such activity is yet another move to self-reliance amidst the global crisis.

The groups have been supported by a programme under the youth centre “Seeds for Empowerment” initiated by the youth in the Diocese of Kajo-Keji.

Youth pray for additional support

The programme aims at supporting church youth groups in becoming economically independent. The programme is still at infant stage; calling for robust efforts to make it progress.



Meanwhile, some youth who attained vocational skills training recently have formed a construction (building) group in the refugee settlement. LWF (Lutheran World Federation) has contracted the group to build houses for extremely vulnerable individuals in the settlement. Thanks to GZB Netherlands (a partner to the Diocese of Kajo-Keji) that supported this training last year.

The youth pray for additional support to empower themselves amidst double crises of COVID-19 and refugee status.

COVID-19 REDIRECTS FOCUS TO AGRICULTURE

**Focus much on
Agriculture to minimise
COVID-19 impact**



Focus much on agriculture to minimise COVID-19 impact

The lock-down measure to combat the spread of COVID-19 has redirected the focus of the Diocese of Kajo-Keji to agriculture.

BrickWork's funding to the Diocese of Kajo-Keji has boosted efforts to intensify agricultural activities amidst the crisis.

The diocese has supported two schools, which have secured pieces of land of about four acres each for growing vegetables.

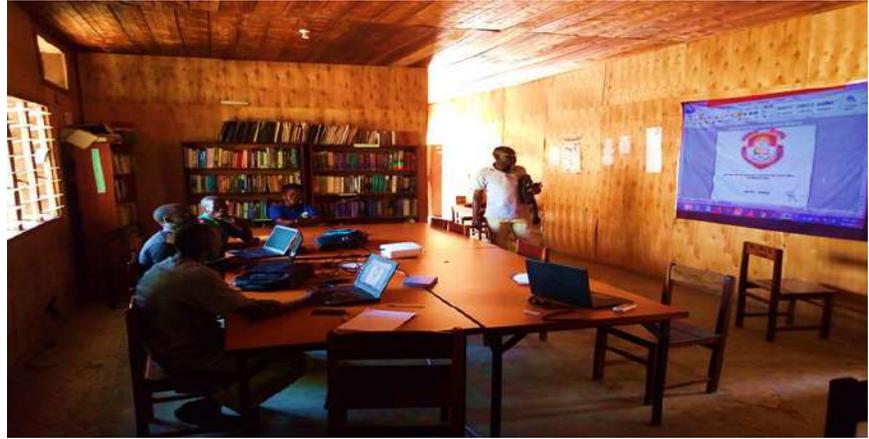
The primary schools, which benefited from the scheme are "Our Child and Good Samaria" in Palorinya Refugee Settlement.

The schools have organized clubs of 50 pupils each headed by teachers in charge of agriculture departments.

The diocese has built their capacities through training, supplying agricultural implements such seeds, organic manure & herbicides.

KCC DESIGNS NEW CURRICULA

Changing role from lecturing to designing new curricula amidst COVID-19 lock-down measure



Changing role from lecturing to designing new curricula amidst COVID-19 lock-down measure

The academia of Kajo-Keji Christian College is designing new curricula for Bachelor of Business Administration & Management, Diploma in Education Primary (DEP), Diploma in Early Childhood Development, Diploma in ICT & Diploma in Journalism for The Episcopal University, its main campus in Juba.

The strenuous exercise has become much achievable amidst COVID-19 lock-down measure.

So far, the academia of young and elderly professionals of different backgrounds has submitted the curriculum for Bachelor of Business Administration & Management programme for scrutiny and approval by The Episcopal University.

The Episcopal University is expected to submit to the National Council of Higher Education for final approval.

Meanwhile, the academia is still working on the curricula for education, ICT & Journalism.

Kajo-Keji Christian College now runs Bachelor of Theology programme.

The curriculum for Bachelor of Theology was designed last year and subsequently approved by the National Council of Higher Education (NCHE) of the Republic of South Sudan.

12 students are currently pursuing Bachelor of Theology at Kajo-Keji Christian College affiliated to The Episcopal University.

DIOCESE RESTORES PEACE: CITIZENS

FADRA prays for additional funding to accelerate peace building activities



SPLA and SPLA-IO forces reconcile under auspices of Bishop Emmanuel Murye Modi

The Director of Faith Development and Relief Agency, FADRA reports that citizens have testified that the diocese's peace building activities in recent times have restored peace in Kajo-Keji County of South Sudan.

Mr Taban Simon Benson says trust and confidence building ushered in by peace initiatives of the diocese have increased numbers of returnees from refugee settlements in Uganda and Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) from Koriyo to their original residences in the county.

Assessment reports indicate that there are already 153,802 returnees in Kajo-Keji County.

FADRA organized pastors' peace building forum on the sixth of March, 2020 to empower the clergy to continue building hope among the people to remain prayerful to maintain spiritual connection with God, Mr Taban says.

He adds that FADRA continues to conduct peace building awareness and sensitization on prevention of the spread of COVID-19 as a risk factor in destabilizing peaceful state of mind of the people already in trauma caused by conflict.

FADRA conducts radio talk shows in Moyo, Uganda to promote peace, love and unity, the director reports.

The agency intends to continue conducting more peace building activities in Kajo-Keji county with the generous support of partners including Tearfund-UK, South Sudan Programme.

FADRA hopes the peace building programme will get further support from friends and donors to run more activities to realize peaceful co-existence.

MU EMPOWERS WOMEN ON BAKING

MU prays for additional support from friends and donors to run more activities for the

Sustainability of project.



Mothers' Union (MU) in the Diocese of Kajo-Keji has empowered women through training in the skill of baking.

MU Coordinator, Mrs Namadi Silivian, says the skill is key to sustaining the livelihood of families.

She says the project would have been fruitless without the timely support from Project Delivering Hope (PDH), UK .

The MU Coordinator commends PDH, UK for the generous grant to the tune of \$857 .

The money was used for purchase of ten ovens for ten groups, she accounts.

The coordinator discloses that the project was delayed by Lock-down measure against the spread of COVID-19.

Bishop Emmanuel Murye Modi launched the ovens of the Amazing Grace Group on the 13th of June, 2020.

Mothers' Union members pray for additional support from friends and donors to run more activities to realize the Sustainability of the project.

Radio restores faith amidst lock-down



Words of Hope Radio Programme in the Diocese of Kajo-Keji has reached out to strengthen and restore the faith of God's people, the Diocesan Radio Producer reports.

Julius Iga Andrugha says although Christians were locked in their houses, the radio transmission has transcended to uplift faith.

He says radio callers of different religious backgrounds testified that media transmission continues to give them encouragement amidst COVID-19 crisis.

Bishop Emmanuel Murye Modi and the hosting Archdeacon of Ma'di Archdeaconry, Ven. Canon Solomon Baka have organized some outreach intervention through the radio.

Together with local authorities, the two leaders carried out sensitization programme as a prophetic role of a watchman featured by Prophet Ezekiel.

Mr Noah Angudiga, a prominent radio caller of Islamic background says he likes the Diocese of Kajo-Keji radio programme for the good teaching and advice, it provides.

HOW ADVERSITY BOOSTS RELATIONSHIP



The Bishop of the Diocese of Kajo-Keji recalls how the adversity of COVID-19 has paved way for meaningful relationship with donors, partners, aid organisations and government dignitaries.

Bishop Emmanuel Murye Modi compliments the Lutheran World Federation (LWF) for supporting the sensitization programme through provision of vehicle, Public Address System, refreshments and meals in Palorinya Refugee Settlement.

He hails the tangible support from Resident District Commissioners of Moyo and Obongi for their maximum cooperation and facilitation during the joint combat against the spread of COVID-19.

The episode asserts the editorial conclusion that there is a divine purpose in every adversity.

"Personal relationships are the fertile soil from which all advancement, all success, all achievement in real life grows."--Ben Stein



PRAYER POINTS

The Diocese of Kajo-Keji is one of the dioceses of the Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan (ECSS). Due to the

political insurgence in South Sudan which caused millions of South Sudanese to flee the country for

refuge in the neighbouring countries, the Diocese of Kajo-Keji moved its offices to Moyo District of Uganda in February 2017 to enable her to minister to the South Sudanese refugees in Palorinya Settlement where the majority of the people from Kajo-Keji are.

- Overcoming COVID-19 crisis
- Quick recovery of the bishop's chaplain
- Recovery of the robbed funds of ARC
- Recovery and healing of ARC staff who went through psychological torture during the invasion of the KCC premises in Romogi
- Intervention for starving people in South Sudan
- Sustainable peace in South Sudan
- KCC finance for renovation and return to Kajo-Keji
- Opening of borders for free movement
- Self control among youth to minimize early pregnancies

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