

FRIENDS OF MARSABIT

(Written by Rob and Sue)

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July 2023

Dear Friends,
Greetings.

What a great visit Bishop Qampicha and his wife Safia had with us in June, and what a blessing they were, wherever they went! The Bishop said: "we thank God for safe and fruitful visit, and really appreciate the great hospitality (we) received."



Bishop Qampicha and Safia
in Bath

They visited our link Diocese of Chelmsford, where + Guli welcomed them. They attended the Diocesan Synod, preached in the Cathedral, met Diocesan officers, visited schools and a hospital, and spent time in various parishes. In one archdeaconry, £3000 was raised to buy a new motorcycle! They visited parishes in 3 other Dioceses, who are keen Marsabit supporters; and met with officers of Mothers Union, Five Talents and Crosslinks. They also enjoyed tourism in London, Cambridge, Wells, Bath and the Chislehurst Caves where up to 15000 sheltered in World War II! They had a quick trip to Birmingham, to see a new church in the mainly Asian areas, to understand just how diverse our society is. I do pray that many of you were able to meet them. Now they're safely home and ready to take up the many challenges again. **Thank you, Lord!**



Bishop Daniel Qampicha

Famine and drought: at least the drought is over, praise the Lord! Abundant rain came and enough has continued to come to ensure that most people will get a harvest. However, harvest takes time to come, and the pastoral communities somehow need to restock their herds,

after over 80% died. So, there is an ongoing challenge for families to find food. And a wider problem is...

Inflation in Kenya: The major challenge for every Kenyan to feed their families is, as in UK, that inflation is rampant, fuel prices have soared, and ordinary staple items too. After the massive infrastructure building programme of roads and bridges, there is a huge debt owed to the Chinese. To help pay for this, VAT and other taxes have been increased. There have been riots in the streets, fanned by the Opposition leader, Raila Odinga, who has called for civil disobedience and non-payment of taxes.

Please give thanks for the rains, and pray for those struggling to survive

Security in Marsabit has however, improved, thank God. The Bishop asks for prayer for the ongoing peace and reconciliation efforts and the work of the interfaith peace makers; and that, after the recent clashes, the many internally displaced people may be resettled. That is always a challenge, as every piece of land is claimed by someone, whether individuals, clan or ethnic group.

Please pray for the peacemakers and for help for the displaced

Mission and training: August is a major mission month. At the Diocesan Synod in May, the Bishop's charge was "Discipling the church, transforming the nation." The Diocesan mission this year in August will be throughout the Sololo

Archdeaconry in the North. 50 young people from all over have signed up to be volunteer evangelists, and are being trained now, and being commissioned this Sunday, July 23rd. Many will be mobilised for the Sololo mission. At the same time 5 deacons, ordained in 2022, will be ordained as priests. The 6 ordinands continue with their training down country. Manman, one of them, a Masai from Isiolo, completes his training in December. A Teens ministry began in May, with 52 teens being trained and commissioned. In April, there was a Diocesan Youth workers Summit, attended by all but two of the parishes, and another one is scheduled for August. The team grows, praise the Lord!



Training of youth leaders

In Isiolo, a non-Anglican church, Burqa (not the veil, but a word meaning Spring), has been accepted by the Synod into the Anglican church. It ministers to the Borana living in Isiolo, and their two pastors will go for training and orientation as Anglican clergy.

Please give thanks for all this missional energy, and pray that it might bear much fruit

Sadly, Norm Gorrie, the Diocesan mission coordinator, and Janelle, who has had her own ministries, including helping translate a children's bible, are returning to Australia in September. They will leave a huge hole – please pray for them, as they leave a place they love so much and have served for so long, and for the Diocese as they look for a replacement for Norm. Jomo, the DYO, will help plug the gap for now



Norm and Janelle Gorrie

Girls High School, and the FoM 10th anniversary gift: The large grant we sent out in 2021 to buy land for a new Girls' High School has now at last been used! The land is in Karare, beside Wings Academy. It has now been cleared and building has begun. A new Junior High school has also started there. A laboratory is being built, which will be shared by both schools. Our partners, Cargo Human Care, are funding this project – what a wonderful gift! - we are so grateful to them. On July 29th, there will be a special Education Sunday to celebrate the growing provision of schools and to raise funds for them.



Please pray for the Marsabit children and young people, as well as for our own in UK, and their spiritual welfare

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