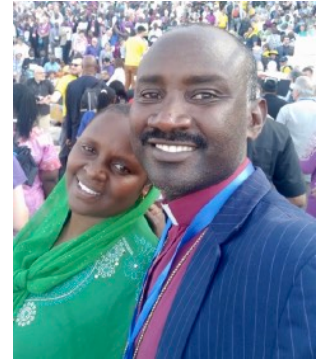


Mission in Diid Galgalo

FRIENDS OF MARSABIT

(Written by Rob and Sue)
(robandsuemartin@gmail.com)

October 2024.



Dear Friends,

**Bishop Daniel Qampicha
and Mama Waqo**

Greetings. I pray you were encouraged by the latest Voice of Hope magazine, which I emailed to everyone 10 days ago. It's easy to take for granted all the good things happening -missions, churches being built, schools developed, clergy trained and ordained: and we forget that the context in which these are happening is really tough.

For instance, security is currently precarious in the far North, where ethnic tensions and lack of resources lead to livestock rustling and killings; and people fleeing their homes. I recently attended a Peace- building initiative webinar, organised by VSO, where Rahma and Temesgen and others in that border area between Sololo and Moyale, on both sides of the Kenya/Ethiopia border, are working to build peace. They include more women in the process, they try to foster understanding of other ethnic groups, and discourage the use of violence to get one's own way – a lesson for humanity, especially now, remembering Ukraine, Sudan and the Middle East. But peace-making is hard and can easily be derailed by hotheads or another attack. Poor Mr. Lee and his Mum-in-law have still not been released and their whereabouts are unknown.

Please pray for their safe release, for good rains to increase people's resources and for the peacemakers



Rental shops at Archers Post

Another challenge is lack of finances. Marsabit is the 2nd poorest part of Kenya, with huge distances between communities, poor infrastructure, illiteracy levels of 80+%, regular conflicts, droughts and famine an ever-present threat. So, the ability of locals to generate funds for development and growth by themselves is severely restricted. That is why the Diocese is focussing on self-sustainability, as well as mission, and every parish is seeking to start income-generating projects. Shops for rental on church plots (Archers Post), posho mills (Walda), house rentals (Waso), water harvesting (Sagante), are some of the schemes being implemented. Savings and Loan projects also help, empowering people to escape the poverty traps that constrain them. And of course, individuals and supporters such as Friends of Marsabit, ARDF in the USA, ELKW and Cargo Human Care in

Germany, AID and Crosslinks in the UK, CMS in Australia, keep sending support and are such a blessing. And being well-run, funds are used correctly, and development and mission are facilitated. So, thank you all, who support and pray for Marsabit! So far this year, FoM has sent £33,000 to help. The total general income for the Diocese in 2023 was about £230,000, of which about £177,000 is locally generated!

Thank the Lord for all who give, and pray the Diocesan goal of self-sustainability is increasingly realised

The mission in August was in the Chalbi desert round Kargi, and to the North in the Diid Galgalo in Tigo and Burgabo and beyond to the Hurri Hills. 40+ missionaries scattered across these areas, saying "Hodi" at the homesteads, and sharing Jesus, showing the Jesus film, and inviting people to services. Being strongholds of Traditional religions and Islam, sometimes they were welcomed, sometimes chased away. But about 1000 heard the gospel, and we pray some accepted Jesus. Small new congregations form and new churches are built. The



Retired mission director Norm Gorrie made Lay Canon

Mission in Diid Galgalo



The latest churches to be built are ACK Rehoboth (a place of space and rest) in Sagante Parish, and ACK Murub in Kargi. And up in Sololo, the long-desired extension at St. John's is being built for the increasing congregation

Schools continue to grow. The Diocese held its Education Sunday in July. When the Diocese was inaugurated in 2011, we had no private primary schools, only sponsored ones, which were subject to Government deployment of teachers, and use of resources. We had no secondary schools, only Government and Roman Catholic ones. Since then, we have built 6 Academies (primary) - St. Paul's (Moyale), Tumaini (Sololo), Wings (Karare), Bishop Martin (Laisamis), Petero Oche (Marsabit) and Oasis (Maikona); and High schools - St. Andrews for boys (Badassa) and Elazar for Girls (Karare). The



Academies are also building Junior High schools beside their Primary classes. What amushrooming of schools, with all the blessings they bring, praise the Lord! And with their strong Christian ethos and dedicated teachers, they have all been performing really well. So, on Education Day, there was genuine rejoicing and competition for the various prizes for best results etc!
Please pray for these schools, their Heads, teachers, and pupils; their impact for good in these young lives

Voice of Hope asked for prayer for the Diocesan Board meetings, usually held in November. Not everyone appreciates the value of meetings! But it's where clergy and lay can steer the strategy and resourcing of the various Diocesan activities: Mission, Education, Finance, Pastoral Care, Discipleship, Development. It's a time to reflect on the past, and the struggles faced, which have either been overcome or still needing resolution. They fulfil a vital function in encouraging honest assessments of how things are going, in diffusing power and in tapping into new and unexpected creativity.

Please pray the Holy Spirit may lead and guide them, as they look to the future and face multiple challenges

And finally, please give thanks for the survival and recovery of the Bishop and his family in the recent car crash!

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