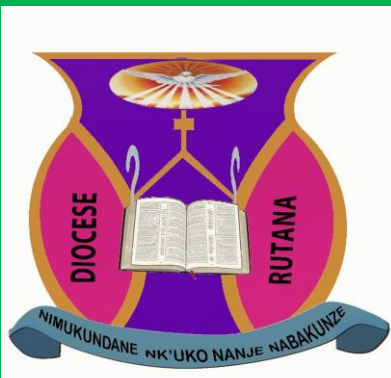




WELCOME TO RUTANA ANGLICAN DIOCESE



SHINING STAR NEWSLETTER
February- March 2022-N^o 44

1. Giharo Bible school year Launching



On 27th February, 2022, there was an official launching of the Bible School Year of 2022 in Giharo Bible School where 12 students all native of Giharo Commune willingly decided to join.

It was a feedback after the diocesan Bishop, all the Arcdeacons and the diocesan staff went to Giharo to meet the church and explain the 5 year plan related to creating a 4th archdeaconry just to reduce the very long distance the church always make as they go to their archdeaconry head quarter situated at around 70km.

The information provided by the diocesan Bishop was welcomed and 12 candidates joined the Bible school.

2. Lent Reflection Season

- a. During this Lent Season of 2022, the Diocese organized a retreat session for all diocesan pastors and Catechists just to spend time together as they meditate upon the chosen biblical topic taken from Mathieu 7:15-23 which is based on by the Church during the 40 days characterizing the lent period.

Participants in that retreat season were reminded of their key roles as church leaders and what Christians expect from them as role models. After the Bishop's talk, there was an exchange of ideas around the chosen topic, the successes and challenges encountered in the fields, but also there was a sharing of testimonies about what the Lord has been doing among his people and therefore had a prayer items session. The moment spent together was so exciting and after a concluding prayer, there was a sharing of soda.

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- b. Related to Lent Season activities are being done all over the diocese and the diocesan Bishop is taking part of them. On this very last Sunday the **20th March, 2022**, the diocesan Bishop attended the lent church service in Saint John Cathedral where he also welcomed a certain pastor native of Rutana who is now serving in the Church of Scotland. It was a very exciting day. Photo below during the retreat season of diocesan pastors and Catechists



3. Local visit of Diocesan Bishop

On 12th-13rd March, 2022, the Diocesan Bishop, the Archdeacons and the diocesan staff made a visit at NYAKIRURI local Church, one of the most far situated local churches belonging to GITABA parish. The purpose of the visit was to explain to the church the 4 year diocesan plan relating to creating a new parish in Musongati Commune so that the long distance Christians make to reach GITABA parish can be reduced.

The vision shared was vividly welcomed by the church and therefore the church joyfully promised to start related preparations so that in 4 years to come necessary facilities will be available to accommodate the promised parish.

4. Mothers' Union Literacy workshop

During the February and March period, the Diocesan Mothers Union Office organized 3 consecutive workshops, one of them was held from 28th February to 4th March, 2022 where 10 facilitators underwent a literacy training to go and create 10 new literacy centres afterwards. Another one was held from 14th to 18th March, 2022 for 10 facilitators during which skills in Savings were taught.

The third one was organized from 21st to 22nd, March, 2022 and the same facilitators who underwent a training on skills in Savings benefited the training workshop on "Business Skills". (See photos below)



5. Potatoes Harvest Project

The agricultural project which the Diocese deals with at Gifunzo Hill faced a big challenge related to the heavy rain which destroyed people's crops and therefore reduce productivity. The diocese of Rutana has recently harvested Potatoes but comparing to the quantity the church used to have in previous years, the harvest got for this year is lower than it used to be. (see photo below)



6. Family Assistance



Christian women worshipping from St. John Cathedral collected various food items in order to assist the family of one of the diocesan Catechists who has been operated and admitted for quite a long time.

It was a very significant and loud speaking activity they did which greatly showed love and compassion they have towards their church leaders who face problems.(see photo left)

Vision: To be a church that both reflects the image of God and promotes the sustainable development in the community.

Mission: Proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ in order to achieve a holistic transformation based on evangelism, leadership, education and socio-economic development for the community.

Prayer request:

- 1) Construction of the guest house project launched
- 2) Church planting in Giharo and Musongati Communes
- 3) Bible school year 2022 program both Gifunzo and Giharo

(End)