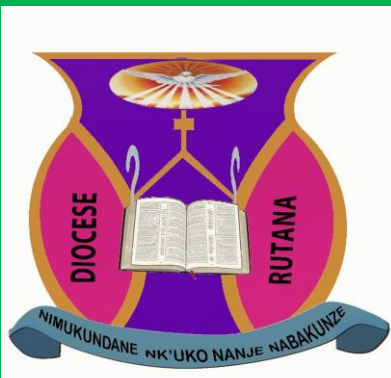




WELCOME TO RUTANA ANGLICAN DIOCESE



SHINING STAR NEWSLETTER
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I. Fighting jobless for young people



On 6 January 2022, the Diocese gathered more than **100 young people** from different parishes of Rutana Diocese who had a meeting with some of the workers of the Investment Bank for Youths located in Gitega. The Bank delegates have come to the Anglican Diocese of Rutana under the invitation of the Diocesan Bishop who after consulting the diocesan staff decided to connect many Christian young people who are jobless to that particular Bank.

The objective of the Bank was **to provide clear information** about itself to those young people on how it works and in what it can be useful to youths in order to fight poverty and therefore prepare their better future. They spent almost a whole day together and the young people who were present during that meeting went back very motivated and decided to start small businesses as they plan to get connected to the Bank. There is another workshop prepared for them just to build their capacities on how their can do business *plan*.

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2. Ecumenical prayer between Anglican and Catholic

On 24th January 2022, there was an **Ecumenical Prayer** combining Anglicans and Catholics in Rutana Cathedrals and it was a real joy beyond our imagination. While Anglicans went to the Catholic Church last year, the Catholics were the ones to pay back to visit in the Anglican Church. Led by their Diocesan Bishop, the Catholics attended as massive as possible and the Anglican Cathedral was full. It was the Catholic Bishop, **Bonaventure NAHIMANA** who preached on **Mathew 2:1-12**, while choirs both Catholics and Anglicans alternatively sang wonderful Christian songs. The meeting was closed by a reception which was held in Anglican Church Conference Hall. (Photos below):



3. Opening of Bible School program in Gifunzo and Giharo

The diocesan Bible School has opened up its doors as planned in **January 31st, 2022**. At Gifunzo Bible School, there **30 Students** among whom **20 students** are in **year II** while **10 are in Year IV**. On 6th January, 2022 there was an official launching of the new Bible School year of 2022 and it was held in Saint John Cathedral led by the Diocesan Bishop, the **Rt. Rev. Pontien RIBAKARE** during the main Church Service, lots of advice regarding to those students and to the pastoral ministry they are being called to serve. There after the Bishop and some of the Bible School Teachers who were present in the Cathedral went to have lunch together with the Bible School Students at Gifunzo Bible School where they take a family photo after.

In addition to the 30 students who will be studying at Gifunzo Bible School, there is a Bible School Branch of **12 Students** which will be officially **opened in Giharo Commune** very

soon. This plan was thought of just to have more native church leaders in Giharo Commune in order to effectively strengthen the church in Giharo which is very far from the diocesan seat. (photo below).



4. Church and community mobilization process

From 25th to 28th, January, 2022, there was a **second phase of Workshop** organized by the Anglican Diocese of Rutana regarding **40 Church leaders from various denominations...** The objective of the workshop was to build capacities of those church leaders in how they can effectively use their local resources and develop themselves, their families and churches using the "**Church and Community Mobilization Process (CCMP)**". The Diocese promised to call them again for the 3rd phase within 6 months to come. (See photo below)



5. Sunday School crusade

On **9th January**, the Sunday School Organized a Christian crusade held in Saint John Cathedral and most of the activities were done by some of them such as the singing, Bible readings. The Word of God which was shared was taken from **I Samuel 3: 1-21** and the preacher talked about the calling of Samuel when he was still a Child. On that passage he said that sometimes people may have God's calling to serve Him but may fail to acknowledge God's voice as happened to Samuel and he told to Church leaders to help their Christians to identify what kind of voice comes from God or not. (see photo below)



6. Agricultural project at Gifunzo

The agricultural project at Gifunzo hill is in a very good process with potatoes' plantations. The production will help the diocese to meet some of its needs such as, the feeding of the Bible School Students while another portion will be sold to make money for other things. (See photo below)



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

(End)