

KABUHIMA

Sacred Heart Convent, 19/12/2009 – 19/12/2010



Grace upon grace, day after day – that is what we experienced in our new mission far away from Ndanda.

19 December 2009: Rt. Rev. Bishop Ludovic Minde OSS introduced us to the parish of Kabuhima, Kahama Diocese, Shinyanga Region, Tanzania. Now, one year later, we look back on this time of grace and thank God and all those who assisted us in this courageous step.

For the first time Ndanda Priory made a foundation far away from the known territory in the south which was given to the Benedictines in the 19th century.

After dreaming, discussing, searching the 18th Priory Chapter had voted for this beginning in October 2009. We are grateful that we can proclaim the kingdom of God among those people who have not yet heard the Gospel (Constitutions I:2), our first charism.

Our founder Sisters Sr. Elisabeth Tilly and Sr Gonzaga Rutakwa have been involved since the very beginning in catechesis, in secondary schools, in the mission teams to the 27 outstations together with the only priest Fr. Salvatore from Sicily. They witnessed already hundreds of baptisms of adults and youth, first holy communion, confirmation and weddings. Adults come from the background of African religion and have been attracted by the sharing of the small Christian communities.

The parishioners had prayed so much for getting sisters. Their prayers were heard; they love their sisters and are very helpful to them. Sr. Stella Millanzi, a junior sister, is now helping in the kindergarden. There are more than 200 children daily on parish ground in the kindergarden and the first classes of a primary school English medium. The Bishop had asked so much for a sister for the administration of the school and for teaching. But unfortunately we do not yet have any for this important apostolate. Two young women are preparing just now to join us as aspirants in March 2011 after receiving their Form IV results.

Grace upon grace – overwhelmed by the loving guidance of our Lord, we look into the future trusting in His care. All is possible with God, never give up.

Sr Raphaela Haendler OSB
Prioress