

Sherry Notes

April 2019

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Dear Family and Friends,

Happy Easter!

Holy Week and Easter were full of blessings for us in Aripea Parish. I hope you also found joy in these days.

For the past year, Fr. Tonino and I have been serving in a parish in Terego County here in Arua Diocese. The parish is about 23 miles from Radio Pacis. Like all parishes in Arua Diocese, the parish includes multiple worshipping communities. Aripea has 29 such communities, called “chapels”. They are under the jurisdiction of the parish and they each have their own church building and a catechist leader as well as a pastoral council. As parish priest, Tonino made it his goal to reach every chapel and celebrate Mass and sacraments with the community. We met our goal and learned so much about these Christians who live in the



Fr. Tonino washing the feet of a young woman who was wearing an Indiana shirt, not knowing that it was my homeland.

“highlands of Mount Wati.” Many are tobacco farmers. Most walk long distances to reach water points, schools and other services. None of the chapels are connected to the power grid for electricity. All of them listen to Radio Pacis.

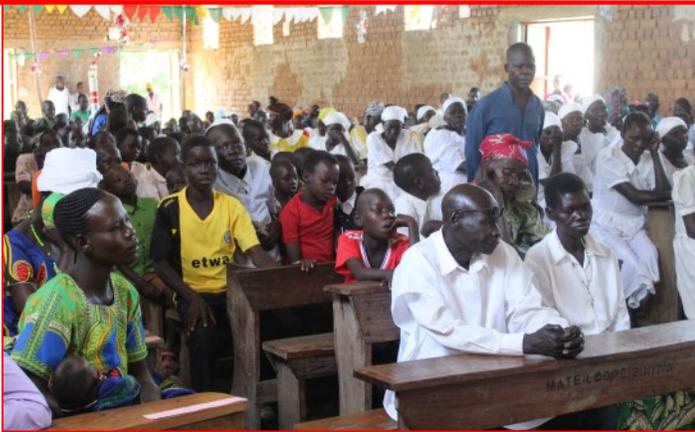
We have tried our best to empower the Christian leaders. We have arranged for many training courses and pushed for the revival of chapel pastoral

councils. Within a few weeks, the PARISH LEARNING CENTRE will be ready with a hall and three other rooms. The first three residential courses at the PLC will be for Small Christian Community leaders.

In July, our Bishop Sabino will install a parish priest at Aripea, a Capuchin Franciscan. Our service in Aripea will change at that point. Bishop Sabino is erecting a new sub-parish with some of the chapels of Aripea Parish. Tonino will be appointed the acting parish priest of that new sub-parish to help the community grow and develop into a full parish. So, we will still be working in the same region with some of the same Christians. We hope to build a strong partnership with the new Capuchin Franciscans at Aripea Parish.



The latest view of the PLC as the workers “plaster” the outside walls. The project was made possible by a donation from a St. Roch parish-ioner, St. Barnabas Parish and the Christians of Aripea Parish.



The church at Aanga was filled to overflowing for the 10 AM Easter Sunday Mass.

We celebrated Palm Sunday, Sacred Triduum liturgies, and Easter Sunday morning at the main church in Aripea Parish. On Easter Sunday morning, we also prayed a second Mass at Aanga Chapel. All these liturgies attracted large crowds from neighboring chapels.

Radio Pacis continues to grow. Preparations are underway for our 15th anniversary of broadcasting. We are also working hard to open a new frequency in Moyo Vicariate which is in the northern part of Arua Diocese on the border with South Sudan. The new frequency will allow us to expand our broadcasts in the languages of that area: Ma'di, Kakwa and Juba Arabic. We will be able to better serve the South Sudanese refugees as well.

Radio Pacis is also in the process of expanding our photo-voltaic power system to 300 kWp already connected to the grid, that will allow us to sell electricity to the local power utility company.

The months of May and June will find me in the USA. Two big events determined by schedule this



The Christians gather around the new fire at the beginning of the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday night.

year: the wedding of my niece Alyssa Servie and Brandon Banta in May; my 50th class reunion of my high school graduation in June.

The Archdiocese of Indianapolis has graciously offered me three mission appeals. Fr. Tonino and I will be at St. Michael's Parish in Greenfield for all the Masses on the weekend of May 18/19. I will be at St. Roch Parish for all the Masses on the weekend of June 15/16. I will be at Holy Spirit Parish in Indianapolis for all the Masses on the weekend of June 22/23. My sister Nancy will be with me at all three parishes with crafts and gifts from Uganda.

"Home leave" is always a great opportunity to reconnect with family and friends. I hope we can meet at one time or another.

Thank you for being my "sending community". I am grateful for all of you who support me with prayers and resources. Your witness challenges me to be all that God intends me to be.



Our chief technician, Enguma Samson, and his team position solar panels on the roof of the administration building at Radio Pacis.

Please join us in these prayer points.

Humbly ask:

- For peace in South Sudan and DR Congo and compassionate care for refugees in Uganda.
- For loving care, respect and dignity for all who suffer mental or physical illnesses.
- For those who are grieving the loss of loved ones.

Give praise and thanks for:

- Generous donors who make our ministry possible at Radio Pacis and at Aripea Parish.
- The gift of family and others who hold us close and send us forth.
- Caregivers in hospitals and senior care facilities.

Our prayers unite us!

Most people now receive this newsletter by email and have greatly reduced the costs of printing and postage. THANK YOU. If you would prefer to receive this newsletter by email, please send my sister Nancy (NMeyer7739@aol.com) an email message to that effect. Also, if you want to have your name completely removed from my mailing list, please let her know. Thanks.

Contributions for Sherry Meyer's missionary work in Uganda:

Make checks payable to COMBONI MISSIONARIES.
Send the check to: Comboni Mission Center, 1318 Nagel Road Cincinnati OH 45255-3120
Include a note with the check indicating that it is for Sherry Meyer.

Or, if you prefer:

Make checks payable to SHERRY MEYER
Send the check to: Nancy Meyer, 109 Walleye Court Indianapolis IN 46227-2588

To reach me in Uganda:

By phone: 011-256-772-474-669

By email: sherry.m.arua@gmail.com

By post: P.O. Box 454, Arua, UGANDA