

Our partners in Kenya have sent urgent prayer requests for the current situation in Kenya.

Kajiado Diocese



Bishop Gaddiel Lenini says the severe drought that has now lasted 3 years is devastating the local economy in Kajiado county. Pastoralists have had to drive their herds long distances from home to find pasture, but many have now lost the majority of livestock and it is common to see animal carcasses on the roadside. The Diocesan herds at Isinya has been decimated – from 200 cattle to only 15 and 250 sheep are down to 30. There is now hardly any milk or meat in the market in Kajiado town, so food prices have risen steeply. A packet of Unga (maize flour) which used to cost 90 KES has risen to 200 KES, 1 kg sugar has gone from 80 KES to 200

KES while cooking oil is almost impossible to find, and local businesses are struggling to trade. Bishop Gaddiel said, “Maasai people are now having to buy milk for the first time in their lives and can’t easily fit in to town life having never been to school.”

In Education the cost-of-living crisis means that many parents can’t afford the 10,000 KES school fees per term + the price of the school uniforms. Universities are also affected as Government scholarships have been withdrawn – so the Anglican Church of Kenya’s St Paul’s University for example has seen student numbers reduce from 3,000 to 500.

In the Church, Sunday worship attendances have also dropped so pastors/evangelists are not receiving stipends, and the people feel that God has forgotten them. Bishop Gaddiel and the other clergy try to bring food parcels where possible when they visit, and are endeavouring to preach an encouraging message. With help from CMSI link parishes and supporters we have recently sent out £12,000 (€13,850) that is being used to renovate 5 houses on the old Kajiado High School site. These will then be rented out to provide sustainable income for 5 rural evangelists in Torosei, Oltiasika, Magadi, Olgulului and Mosiro.



Please pray for

- The drought to end and for rain to fall
- The Churches’ ongoing ministry of food distribution and spiritual encouragement
- The House Renovation Project to provide Sustainable Income for Rural Evangelists
- The upcoming 30th Anniversary of the Diocese in Kajiado Cathedral on Sun 13 August when all parishes will be closed so the people can attend and thank God. A live link via YouTube will be available.

Tujisaidie Self-help Group (formerly UDP)

Isabelle Prondzynski and Louise Githire have sent messages asking prayer for sanity and peace to prevail in Nairobi and other major cities, where demonstrations and riots are currently causing chaos. The protests are being encouraged by former prime minister Raila Odinga who claims that the elections earlier this year were unfair and that President Ruto is not listening to his concerns. They are also being fuelled by the cost-of-living crisis brought about by the drought (see above), the war in Ukraine and the rise of basic prices like ugali flour, sugar and cooking oil. Earlier this month the government doubled VAT on petrol from 8% to 16% increasing the cost of transport as well as the production of goods.

Last week (according to the BBC <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-africa-66244862>) at least 14 people died in protests - 10 of whom were shot dead by police, while in another incident more than 50 children were admitted to



hospital after tear gas was fired into their classroom in Nairobi. In order to protect the children the Government has responded by closing all Primary and Secondary Schools in Nairobi and Mombasa counties yesterday (19 July), with a review of the situation today.

Antony Njoroge says they are grateful there have not been many skirmishes in Soweto/Kayole so far, but Lucy says there is tear gas in the air. Louise is staying home with her family and they are all doing ok - adding, "My prayer request is that the President and the opposition leaders should dialogue together for the benefit of our country and that our leaders will seek wisdom from God to lead and put Kenya first."

In other news Isabelle writes that "We are grateful for all support given towards the free school meals at the Tujisaidie Community Centre School. This is most welcome as food prices in Kenya have risen sharply over the last 12 months and it is becoming increasingly difficult to finance these. At the same time many of the marginalised families who send children to the school are also finding it harder to make ends meet, so that for a considerable number of children their school lunch is the only proper meal they get."

Meanwhile a group of three supporters - Rev Jonny Campbell-Smyth (United Parish of Ballyclare & Ballynure), Linda Allen & Lynn Wilson (St Mark's, Dundela) – returned last month from a 10-day visit to Tujisaidie. They gave glowing reports of their time there and the people they met, with lots of encouraging stories given during special feedback meetings at their respective churches.



Highlights of the visit included meeting John Omondi (school principal) and his staff at the Tujisaidie School, where Jonny spoke at an Assembly, while Linda and Lynn facilitated a seminar teaching the children to knit (part of their new Competence Based Curriculum). They also saw first-hand the text books provided recently through CMSI support, as well as the daily free school meals being cooked and served to the 300 children and 17 staff.

Antony welcomed them to the new Tumaini Centre of Excellence (Youth Resource building) where they helped out at the "More than just a meal" Saturday lunch distribution. They also saw the new bookshelves in the Tumaini Library with the new windows and electrical installation. All three commented on the amazingly impressive spirituality of the leaders at Tujisaidie and Tumaini, and the great joy they encountered when attending the local church worship services. They were also deeply moved by the resilience of the people, many of whom live in extremely cramped shanty housing with very few amenities.

Please pray for

- Restoration of calm in Kenyan cities
- A political solution to the current tensions between Government and Opposition parties.
- Those struggling to make ends meet as food and fuel prices increase
- Help for the Tujisaidie school as they are missing contact time with the children
- A major funding application currently being assessed for the redevelopment of one wing of the school

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