

NEWS FROM MIKE KNOX about LEGHO and the focus of our ANNUAL CHRISTMAS GIFT

Dear Fr Jock, Parishioners and the January travellers to Legho

I am writing this on the plane as I leave Amsterdam while experiencing a real drop in temperature and looking forward to my first UK Christmas in a number of years. I go to Legho regularly to support the **2 Young Adult Small Christian Communities** who have now set up an **Environmental Group** and an **Entrepreneurial Small Business Training Programme**. They have a Youth Choir of over 50 and are preparing to act as tour Guides and hosts for the St John's and Mary Magdalene's Group.

A number of developments can now be celebrated, blessed and affirmed by the group in January. They will meet the Tanzanian Climate Change Ambassador who will come to Scotland in September to visit all the schools taking part in our joint Environmental Programme (Twende Kijani / Let's Go Green). He is interested to know about St John's becoming an eco parish.

As you may know we have been involved in building 2 Centres. The smaller Sacred Heart Centre, where the group will stay is now complete. The building of the Twende Pamoja Centre in Legho had to stop several years ago with the foundations and some of the walls completed as the funds ran out.

There is a need now for an area for the young people. Rather than wait for providence to provide a large sum of money I met with Mgr Paul and Fr Sangawe (the Parish Priest) and we propose to develop part of it now of it as a Youth Centre with meeting rooms, an office and a small hair salon. They already have the clippers, courtesy of Pamoja Fashion as well as 2 sewing machines to be brought in January. The young people would like to use part of the grounds for growing tree seedlings and vegetables to fund the youth projects. We had the youth development costed and it comes to £11,678. We will try and fundraise for this in 2020 and the young people will take part in this as well..

However, for many years now we have had a simple Christmas Collection for Legho. If possible for this year could be to help offset the cost of the fence around the Youth Area. This will provide security for the seedlings and demarcate the area which is being given to them. The rest can wait until the future. They will also help raise funds and do a lot of the building work.





